



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**TUESDAY 27 MAY 2014, ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT**

Present: Mr Pat Sheehan (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr. Roy Beggs
Ms Paula Bradley
Mr Gregory Campbell
Mr. Séan Rogers
Ms Caitríona Ruane

Apologies: Mr. Alex Attwood
Mr. Stephen Moutray
Mr. Raymond McCartney
Mr. Trevor Lunn

In Attendance: Mr John Simmons (Assembly Clerk)
Ms Kate McCullough (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Jim Nulty (Clerical Supervisor)

In the absence of the Chairperson the meeting was chaired by the Deputy Chairperson.

The meeting opened at 10.38am in public session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are noted above.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 6 May 2014.

3. Matters Arising

The Deputy Chairperson updated Members on Party responses to the request for priority issues for future reviews by the Committee.

Agreed: Members to encourage Parties to respond.

Members noted correspondence received from Mr. Peter Emerson regarding the Borda Count recently used by Dublin City Council.

Members noted correspondence received from the Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly endorsing the Committee's Review '*Women in Politics and the NI Assembly*' and the Committee's immediate plan to visit the National Assembly for Wales as part of this Review.

Members noted correspondence from Committee for Procedures regarding its *Review of Current Organisation of the Business week of the Northern Ireland Assembly* to be debated in plenary later today.

Roy Beggs joined the meeting at 10.42am.

4. Briefing from the All Party Group on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 – Women, Peace and Security

Witnesses joined the meeting at 10.45am

Members received an oral briefing from Paula Bradley MLA, Chairperson of the All Party Group (APG) on the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and Dr. Ann Marie Gray, Northern Ireland Women's European Platform, Secretariat to the All Party Group.

Key issues discussed included implementation of the principles of UNSCR 1325, the role of women in peace building, challenges and barriers for women entering politics and an update on the APGs Westminster Inquiry.

The Deputy Chairperson thanked the witnesses for their presentation and discussion which followed.

Witnesses concluded at 11.10am.

5. Visit to the National Assembly for Wales

Agreed: The programme drafted for the visit to the National Assembly for Wales on the 4-5 June 2014.

Caitríona Ruane left the meeting at 11.17am

Caitríona Ruane rejoined the meeting at 11.21am.

6. Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly – Approach to the Review

Members noted a number of draft papers for discussion including the Terms of Reference, a draft 'Call for Evidence' paper, the list of key stakeholders to be invited to respond to it and another list of potential witnesses to provide oral evidence to the Committee.

Agreed: To discuss the papers (updated as necessary) further at the next meeting

Sean Rogers left the meeting at 11.28am

Agreed: To ask the Northern Ireland Assembly Research and Information Services for a comparative breakdown of nominations of successful women candidates in the recent Northern Ireland elections, including electoral boundaries within the United Kingdom and Ireland to ask the Northern Ireland Assembly Research and Information Service for a comparative breakdown of women candidates in the recent Northern Ireland elections by success, Party, Ward and North and South.

7. Forward Work Programme

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with the Forward Work Programme as drafted.

8. Any Other Business

There were no other items of business.

9. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Assembly and Executive Review Committee will be held on Tuesday 24 June at 10.30am in room 21.

The Deputy Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11.41am.

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