



**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY 6 MAY 2014, ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,  
BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT**

Present: Mr Pat Sheehan (Deputy Chairperson)  
Ms Paula Bradley  
Mr Gregory Campbell  
Mr Stephen Moutray  
Mr Raymond McCartney

Apologies: Mr. Alex Attwood  
Mr. Roy Beggs  
Mr. Paul Givan  
Mr. Séan Rogers  
Ms Caitríona Ruane

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

*In the absence of the Chairperson at the start of the meeting, the meeting was chaired by the Deputy Chairperson.*

*The meeting opened at 10.45am 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 8 April 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 a letter received from the Secretary of State acknowledging receipt of the *Review of Petitions of Concern* Report.

#### **4. Briefing by Assembly Research and Information Service – Women in the Northern Ireland Assembly**

*Research Officer joined the meeting at 10.46am*

*Stephen Moutray joined the meeting at 10.54am*

Members received an oral briefing from the Northern Ireland Assembly Research and Information Services on a paper on *Women in the Northern Ireland Assembly*

Key issues discussed included an update paper on the Welsh Assembly and candidates by gender for the 2014 Local Government elections in Northern Ireland.

The Research Officer agreed to provide further information to Members on a number of issues.

*Research Officer left the meeting 11.15am.*

#### **5. Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly – Approach to the Review**

*Agreed:* To move into closed session.

*The Committee moved into closed session at 11.15am.*

Members noted the proposed approach to the Review of *Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly*.

*Agreed:* The content of the proposed programme for the way forward for the Review.

*Agreed:* A visit to a relevant legislature as part of the scoping stage of the Review.

*The Committee moved into open session at 11.38am.*

#### **6. Forward Work Programme**

The Chairperson advised Members that the purpose of this agenda item was for Members to consider the meetings scheduled for the Committee's new Review topic.

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

#### **7. Any Other Business**

There were no other items of business.

**8. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Assembly and Executive Review Committee will be held on Tuesday 27 May at 10.30am in room 21.

*The Deputy Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11.39am.*

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