



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2014, ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT**

Present: Mr Stephen Moutray (Chairperson)
Mr Roy Beggs
Ms Paula Bradley
Mr Gregory Campbell
Mr Paul Givan
Mr Trevor Lunn
Mr Raymond McCartney
Mr Seán Rogers
Ms Caitríona Ruane
Mr Pat Sheehan

Apologies: None.

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

The meeting opened at 10.30am in public session.

1. Apologies

No apologies were received.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 11th February 2014.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Mr Pat Sheehan and Ms Paula Bradley joined the meeting at 10.32am.

4. Review of Petitions of Concern

The Chairperson advised Members that the purpose of this agenda item was to continue the Committee's discussion on the Review of Petitions of Concern.

The Chairperson advised the Committee that they had the option of moving into closed session for the discussion on the Review of Petitions of Concern.

Agreed: To move into closed session.

The Committee moved into closed session at 10.32am.

Mr Roy Beggs joined the meeting at 10.33am.

The Committee discussed four papers on the different elements of its Review of Petitions of Concern, as set out in the agreed Terms of Reference.

Ms Caitríona Ruane left the meeting at 10.44am.

Mr Raymond McCartney joined the meeting at 10.49am.

A Member proposed that the Committee vote on the following question:

The Assembly dispenses with the use of the Petition of Concern and acknowledges that consideration must be given to alternative mechanisms that would ensure cross-community support and protection for the rights of minorities.

The Committee voted

Ayes: Two Members

Noes: Six Members

Abstentions: One Member

Agreed: The Committee agreed draft conclusions for the Report on the Review.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Secretariat should draft an initial Report, based on the discussions at today's meeting, for consideration at its next meeting.

The Committee moved into open session at 11.09am.

5. 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 current Review.

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

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 11th March 2014 at 10.30am in room 21.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11.10am.

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