

Northern Ireland Assembly

ASSEMBLY AND EXECUTIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY 1 MARCH 2016, ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT

Present: Mr Alastair Ross (Acting Chairperson)

Mr Danny Kennedy Mr Gregory Campbell Ms Caitríona Ruane Mr Seán Rogers

In Attendance: Ms Claire McCanny (Senior Assistant Clerk)

Ms Pamela Carson (Assistant Assembly Clerk)

Mr Jim Nulty (Clerical Supervisor)

1. Election of an Acting Chairperson

The Committee elected Alastair Ross to assume the role as Acting Chairperson for this meeting.

The Acting Chairperson opened the meeting at 10.28am.

2. Apologies

Mr Stephen Moutray Ms Paula Bradley

Mr Pat Sheehan

Mr Raymond McCartney

Mr Trevor Lunn

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. AERC Legacy Report

Agreed: The Committee was content with the 'Powers and Membership' section of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with the 'Committee Work Areas and Committee Approach' section of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with an amended 'Issues for Incoming Mandate' section of the Report. It was agreed that, following the 2014 AERC Report on Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly, the Committee Secretariat would include a paragraph on gender quotas and the impact of financial penalties to increase female representation following the 2016 elections to Dáil Éireann.

Agreed: The Committee was content with the 'Summary of the Final Session' section of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with 'Appendix 1 – Changes of Membership' section of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with 'Appendix 2 – Assembly and Executive Review Committee' section of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with 'Appendix 3 – Expenditure section of the Report'.

Agreed: The Committee was content that the Committee Secretariat makes any formatting/editorial changes required to the report in advance of publication.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the report be the Ninth Report of the Assembly and Executive Review Committee to the Assembly.

Agreed: The Committee was content that the report is placed on the Committee pages of the Assembly website.

5. Any Other Business

The Committee noted receipt of the Consumer Council's Draft Corporate Plan for 2016-2021 and Forward Work Programme for 2016-2017.

The Committee noted the correspondence from the Speaker of the Assembly in response to the Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights regarding the opportunity to contribute to the UK Government's consultation on its proposal to repeal the Human Rights Act 1998 and replace it with a Bill of Rights.

Agreed: This correspondence and the Hansard of the debate held in the Assembly in June 2015 to be forwarded to Members for their comments.

Ms Ruane commended the work of the Committee during the Women in Politics Review and its impact on the work of the Assembly Commission during International Women's Week.

6. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

Agreed: Members agreed that, as the Committee will not meet again until the new mandate, the Acting Chairperson should agree the minutes of this meeting.

The Acting Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 10.39am.

Mr Alastair Ross, Acting Chairperson Assembly and Executive Review Committee