



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Ad Hoc Committee on a Bill of Rights

Minutes of Proceedings

Thursday 17 June 2021

Meeting Location: Hybrid Meeting – Room 29, Parliament Buildings, and via StarLeaf

Present: Emma Sheerin MLA (Chairperson)
Paula Bradshaw MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Doug Beattie MLA
Mark Durkan MLA
Carál Ní Chuilín MLA

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Caroline Perry (Assembly Clerk)
Gavin Ervine (Senior Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Gareth Cross (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 2:13pm in open session.

1. Apologies

As above.



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2. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson reminded Members that herself and the Deputy Chairperson will be attending a Human Rights Consortium event in relation to public polling it has commissioned in collaboration with Queens University and Ulster University. The Chairperson informed Members that she intends to provide attendees with an update on the Committee's work. The event will take place on Wednesday 23 June 2021.

The Chairperson referred Members to a note of the informal session of the Committee's reporting stage deliberations on 3 June 2021.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the note of the informal session of the Committee's reporting stage deliberations on 3 June 2021.

The Chairperson referred Members to a note of the informal session of the Committee's reporting stage deliberations on 10 June 2021.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the note of the informal session of the Committee's reporting stage deliberations on 10 June 2021.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 June 2021.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.



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5. Correspondence

Members noted correspondence from the Northern Ireland Assembly Women's Caucus providing a RalSe paper on Gender Budgeting and Gender Inequalities in NI Education Policy.

6. Forward Work Programme

The Chairperson referred Members to the draft Forward Work Programme.

Agreed: Members agreed the Forward Work Programme.

7. Any Other Business

The Deputy Chairperson raised the issue of the panel of experts and the associated appointment process.

Agreed: Members agreed to write to the Executive Office to ask for an update on the status of the panel and to ensure those people that applied for the panel receive appropriate communication about their application.

8. Date, Time and Place of the next meeting

The next meeting will be an informal session on Thursday 24 June 2021 at 2:00pm when the Committee will continue its reporting phase.

The Committee moved to closed session at 2.17pm.



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The Committee continued its reporting stage deliberations. A number of issues were discussed including a preamble and values.

The meeting adjourned at 2:59pm.

Emma Sheerin MLA

Chairperson, Ad Hoc Committee on a Bill of Rights