



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2014

ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

- Present: Ms Anna Lo MLA (Chairperson)
Mrs Pam Cameron MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Cathal Boylan MLA
Mr Tom Elliott MLA
Mr Alban Maginness MLA
Mr Ian McCrea MLA
Mr Barry McElduff MLA
Lord Morrow MLA
Mr Peter Weir MLA
- In Attendance: Mrs Sheila Mawhinney (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Sean McCann (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Neil Sedgewick (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Antoinette Bowen (Clerical Officer)
- Apologies: Mr Colum Eastwood MLA
Mr Ian Milne MLA

The meeting began in closed session at 12:37.

1. Briefing by Assembly Bill Clerk

The Committee received a briefing from the Assembly Bill Clerk on the proposed Committee amendments to clauses 95 and 98 of the Local Government Bill.

Mr Maginness joined the meeting at 12:42.

The Committee also discussed the admissibility of further submissions from NILGA and Community Places in relation to further amendments to the Local Government Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed it was unable to consider further submissions as the formal clause by clause consideration of the Bill concluded on the 13th February 2014. The Committee agreed to write to both groups to explain this.

Mr Weir joined the meeting at 12:47.

The meeting continued in public session at 12:48.

2. Apologies

Apologies were indicated as above.

3. Matters arising

3.1 The Committee noted further information from the Department in response to outstanding Committee queries on the Local Government Bill and details of further amendments.

3.2 The Committee noted correspondence from NILGA and Community Places on the Local Government Bill.

3.3 The Committee reconsidered proposed amendments to clauses 95 and 98 of the Local Government Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to withdraw these proposed amendments

The meeting continued in closed session at 12:53 for consideration of the draft Committee report.

4. Consideration of the draft Committee report on the Local Government Bill

The Committee gave consideration to the draft report on the Planning Bill.

The Committee considered the Executive Summary section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with the Executive Summary section of the report subject to a minor amendment.

Mr Weir left the meeting at 12:58

The Committee considered the Recommendation section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with the Recommendation section of the report as drafted.

The Committee considered the Consideration of the Bill section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with the Consideration of the Bill section of the report as drafted.

The Committee considered the Clause by clause consideration section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee was content with the Clause by clause consideration section of the report as drafted.

Mr Elliott asked for it to be recorded that he wishes to reserve his position on the Committee report.

5. Any Other Business

No business was discussed.

6. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 20th February 2014 at 10:00am in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 13:07

Anna Lo, MLA

Chairperson, Committee for the Environment

20 February 2014