

## **COMMITTEE FOR FINANCE AND PERSONNEL**

### **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY, 01 SEPTEMBER 2015  
ROOM 30, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present: Mr Daithí McKay MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Dominic Bradley MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Ms Michaela Boyle MLA  
Mr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir MLA  
Mr Jim Wells MLA

In Attendance: Mr Shane McAteer (Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Phil Pateman (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Miss Heather Graham (Clerical Officer)

Apologies: Mr Leslie Cree MBE MLA  
Mr John McCallister MLA  
Mr Ian McCrea MLA  
Mr Adrian McQuillan MLA

*The meeting commenced at 10:35am in public session.*

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies are detailed above.

#### **2. Draft Minutes of Proceedings of 27 August 2015**

*Agreed:* that, given the short notice of today's meeting, the draft minutes of the meeting on 27 August 2015 will be considered at a subsequent Committee meeting.

#### **3. Review of the Sale of National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) assets in Northern Ireland - Correspondence and Next Steps**

Arising from the Committee's open call for evidence, inviting anyone with information relevant to its Review to provide that to the Committee, members considered correspondence received from Mr Niall Murphy, Solicitor Advocate & Partner at KRW LAW LLP. In the correspondence, Mr Murphy had indicated that his client, Mr Gareth Graham, a Belfast-based

businessman who has had experience of the workings of Cerberus, would be willing to provide evidence to the Committee which could inform its ongoing Review. In noting a reference in the correspondence to Mr Graham having ‘an ongoing legal dispute with Cerberus’, members discussed the possibility of this giving rise to a legal issue in respect of the potential application of the sub judice rule to oral evidence received in this regard.

*Agreed:* to commission advice from Assembly Legal Services on the scope for taking oral evidence from Mr Graham on the basis of keeping within the Committee’s Review Terms of Reference and not falling foul of the sub judice rule.

*Agreed:* to provisionally schedule oral evidence from Mr Graham for Thursday, 3 September 2015; but that any decision to proceed with the public hearing would be subject to first receiving advice from Assembly Legal Services on the scope for taking the oral evidence on the basis of keeping within the Committee’s Review Terms of Reference and not falling foul of the sub judice rule.

*Agreed:* to write to Mr Niall Murphy, Solicitor Advocate & Partner at KRW LAW LLP, confirming the Committee’s agreed approach and to establish how he considers Mr Graham could provide evidence which is within the Committee’s Review Terms of Reference and which does not fall foul of the sub judice rule.

#### **4. Any Other Business**

There was no other business

#### **5. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee will take place on Thursday 3 September at 10am in Room 30.

*The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11:01am.*

**Mr Daithí McKay MLA**  
**Chairperson**  
**Committee for Finance and Personnel**  
**03 September 2015**