

COMMITTEE FOR FINANCE AND PERSONNEL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2015
ROOM 30, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present: Mr Daithí McKay MLA (Chairperson)
Ms Michaela Boyle MLA
Mrs Judith Cochrane MLA
Mr Leslie Cree MBE, MLA
Mr Gordon Lyons MLA
Mr Ian McCrea MLA
Mr Gary Middleton MLA
Mr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir MLA

In Attendance: Mr Shane McAteer (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Phil Pateman (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Nory Kaplan-Kelly (Legislative Studies Programme Student)
Miss Heather Graham (Clerical Officer)

Apologies: Mr John McCallister MLA

The meeting commenced at 10:34am in public session.

Agreed: that agenda item 3 is covered by Hansard and the Official Report published on the Assembly's website.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Máirtín Ó Muilleoir joined the meeting at 10:35am

3. Rates (Amendment) Bill – Ministerial briefing

In line with Standing Order 42(3), the Committee received a briefing on a proposal that the Rates (Amendment) Bill receives accelerated passage, from the following representatives of the Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP):

- Arlene Foster MLA, Minister of Finance and Personnel; and
- Brian McClure, Head of Rating Policy Division, DFP

This session was recorded by Hansard.

Agreed: that DFP will provide follow up information on issues discussed during the briefing, including an indicative timetable for the passage of the Bill through the Assembly.

Agreed: that the Committee has considered the proposal by the Minister of Finance and Personnel to seek accelerated passage for the Rates (Amendment) Bill and is supportive of this approach.

Agreed: that, further to the Committee's previous decision to schedule an oral briefing from a panel of identified amateur sporting bodies, a briefing will also be scheduled from a panel of applicable business sector representatives; and that these briefings will be scheduled in advance of the Second Stage debate on the Bill.

Judith Cochrane joined the meeting at 10:40am.

4. Committee Work Programme

Review of the Sale of NAMA assets in Northern Ireland

Members considered lines of questioning for a forthcoming evidence session with the former DFP Permanent Secretary, Stephen Peover, which had been commissioned from Assembly Research and considered by Assembly Legal Services as agreed on 23 September 2015.

Agreed: to issue the lines of questioning to Mr Peover in advance of his oral evidence session.

Members noted that a quorum would be available to hold an additional meeting on Thursday 3 December 2015 in order to facilitate the former Minister of Finance and Personnel, Sammy Wilson MP, in providing oral evidence in relation to the review.

Agreed: to proceed with scheduling the oral hearing from the former Minister of Finance and Personnel, Sammy Wilson MP, on Thursday 3 December.

5. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

6. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee will be on Wednesday 18 November 2015 at 10:00am in Room 30, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11:04am.

Mr Daithí McKay MLA
Chairperson
Committee for Finance and Personnel
25 November 2015