

# PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 19 MARCH 2014  
ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Ms Michaela Boyle (Chairperson)  
Mr John Dallat (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Trevor Clarke  
Mr Michael Copeland  
Mr Alex Easton  
Mr Paul Girvan  
Mr Chris Hazzard  
Mr Ross Hussey  
Mr Seán Rogers

In Attendance: Ms Lucia Wilson (Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Trevor Allen (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mrs Danielle Saunders (Clerical Supervisor)  
Mr Darren Weir (Clerical Officer)

Apologies: Mr Daithí McKay  
Mr Adrian McQuillan

*2.39pm The meeting opened in public session*

### **1. Apologies**

No apologies were received.

### **2. Minutes of the meeting on 12 March 2014**

*Agreed: The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.*

*2.40pm Mr Rogers joined the meeting*

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### Correspondence from Save the Mid

The Committee noted correspondence from Hugh McCloy of Save the Mid in relation to waiting times in A&E Departments.

*Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the correspondence to the Health Committee and the NI Audit Office for consideration.*

Correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel on NICS HR Shared Services

The Committee noted correspondence and a research paper from the Committee for Finance and Personnel on the NICS HR Shared Services.

*Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the correspondence and research paper to the NI Audit Office for information.*

Correspondence from the Charity Commission NI

The Committee noted correspondence from the Charity Commission NI.

Request for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000

*Agreed:* The Committee noted a request for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and agreed to consider a draft response to the request at a future meeting.

*2.46pm The meeting moved to closed session*

**4. Inquiry into Improving Pupil Attendance: Follow-up report – Consideration of Issues Paper**

*Mr Rogers and Mr Hazzard declared an interest in this item of business as members of the Education Committee*

The Committee received briefing from the C&AG, Eddie Bradley and Richard Emerson on the inquiry's issues paper.

*2.57pm Mr Copeland joined the meeting*

*3.00pm Ms Boyle left the meeting; Mr Dallat took the Chair*

*Agreed:* The Committee noted the issues paper and agreed that the report on the inquiry be drafted on this basis.

**5. Inquiry into NI Water's Response to a Suspected Fraud and Inquiry into DRD: Review of a Whistleblower Complaint – Consideration of Draft Report**

*Agreed: The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the draft report on the above inquiries until the meeting of 26 March 2014.*

**6. Any other business**

Members considered a request to change the date of a forthcoming evidence session.

**7. Date, time and place of next meeting**

Members noted that the next meeting of the Committee will take place on Wednesday 26 March 2014 at 2.00pm in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

*3.14pm the meeting adjourned*

**Ms Michaela Boyle**  
**Chairperson, Public Accounts Committee**