

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, 21 APRIL 2015
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

- Present: Ms Michaela Boyle (Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Roy Beggs
Mr Trevor Clarke
Mr Alex Easton
Mr Phil Flanagan
Mr Paul Girvan
Mr Adrian McQuillan
Mr Sean Rogers
- In Attendance: Ms Lucia Wilson (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Jack Peel (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mrs Danielle Saunders (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Darren Weir (Clerical Officer)
- Apologies: Mr Ross Hussey

12.40pm The meeting began in open session

1. Apologies

An apology was received from Mr Hussey.

Agreed: It was agreed that the Committee would write a letter of condolence to Mr Hussey on the death of his mother.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of 25 March 2015

Agreed: The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

12.42pm The meeting moved into closed session

6. Inquiry into the Department of Justice: Managing and Protecting Funds Held in Court – Correspondence

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence from the Department of Justice.

12.45pm Mr Flanagan and Mr Rogers joined the meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed not to hold a PAC Meeting on Wednesday 6th May due to its proximity to the polling day for the Westminster elections on Thursday 7th May.

7. Inquiry into the Department of Justice: Managing and Protecting Funds Held in Court – Consideration of Draft Report

Agreed: The Committee considered its draft report on the above inquiry.

Main Body of Report:

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|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Paragraph 6: | Read and agreed |
| Paragraph 7: | Read and agreed |
| Paragraph 8: | Read and agreed |
| Recommendation 1: | Read and agreed |
| Paragraph 9: | Read and agreed |
| Recommendation 2: | Read and agreed |
| Paragraphs 10-11: | Read and agreed |
| Recommendation 3: | Read, amended and agreed |
| Paragraphs 12-14: | Read and agreed |
| Paragraph 15: | Read, amended and agreed |
| Paragraph 16: | Read and agreed |
| Recommendation 4: | Read and agreed |

12.50pm Mr Clarke left the meeting

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|-------------------|-----------------|
| Paragraphs 17-18: | Read and agreed |
| Paragraph 19: | Read and agreed |
| Recommendation 5: | Read and agreed |
| Paragraph 20: | Read and agreed |
| Recommendation 6: | Read and agreed |

Executive Summary:

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| Paragraphs 1-5: | Read and agreed |
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12.53pm Mr Clarke re-joined the meeting

Summary of Recommendations:

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|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Recommendations 1-2: | Read and agreed |
| Recommendation 3: | Read, amended and agreed |
| Recommendations 4-6: | Read and agreed |

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes, minutes of evidence and correspondence to be included as appendices to the report.

Agreed: The Committee ordered the report to be printed

Agreed: The Committee agreed the report to be launched on Wednesday 13th May and for a draft press release to be brought before the Committee on Wednesday 29th April.

12.58pm The meeting moved into open session

3. Correspondence

Correspondence received from Minister of Justice regarding the National Fraud Initiative

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence from the Minister for Justice.

1.01pm Mr Clarke left the meeting

1.02pm Mr Clarke re-joined the meeting

Correspondence received from Mr Philip McGonagle regarding Ulsterbus

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward this correspondence to the Committee for Regional Development and to write to Mr McGonagle informing him of this action.

1.09pm Mr Flanagan left the meeting

4. Matters Arising

There were no new matters arising

5. DFP Annual Theft and Fraud Report 2013-14

The Committee received briefing from Alison Caldwell, DFP, regarding the Annual Theft and Fraud Report 2013-14.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the Annual Theft and Fraud Report 2013-14.

1.16pm Mr Rogers left the meeting

1.20pm Mr Easton left the meeting

8. Any Other Business

Correspondence from NIAO regarding Ministerial Direction from Minister for Health

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence from NIAO

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9. Date, time and place of next meeting

Members were advised that the Committee will next meet on Wednesday 22nd April 2015 at 2.00pm in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

1.32pm The meeting was adjourned.

Ms Michaela Boyle
Chairperson, Public Accounts Committee