

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2015  
SENATE CHAMBER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Ms Michaela Boyle (Chairperson)  
Mr John Dallat (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Roy Beggs  
Mr Trevor Clarke  
Mr Phil Flanagan  
Mr Paul Girvan  
Ms Claire Hanna  
Mr Jim Wells

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 Adrian McQuillan  
Mr Conor Murphy

*2.10pm The meeting began in closed session.*

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr McQuillan and Mr Murphy

#### **7. Consideration of Draft Report on the Department for Social Development: Advanced Land Purchases**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered the remaining points in its draft report which had not been agreed at the meeting of 15 September. These points had been revised from the draft presented to the Committee on 15 September.

#### **Main Body of Report:**

Recommendation 5: Read and agreed

Paragraph 29: Read and agreed  
Paragraph 33 Read, amended and agreed  
Recommendation 10: Read, amended and agreed

2.16pm *Mr McQuillan joined the meeting.*

### **Executive Summary:**

Read and Agreed

### **Summary of Recommendations:**

Recommendations 1-13 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

2.25pm *Mr Wells left the meeting*

2.26pm *Ms Hanna joined the meeting*

2.27pm *The meeting moved into open session.*

## **2. Minutes of the meeting of 15 September 2015**

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

## **3. Matters Arising**

Members questioned the Treasury Officer of Accounts on the revised guidance for Accounting Officers on dealing with NIAO / PAC media inquiries which he had issued.

## **4. Correspondence**

There was no new correspondence.

## **5. End of Session Report 2014/15**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that the End of Session Report for 2014/15 be published.

2.44pm *Mr Flanagan left the meeting.*

## **6. Evidence Session on the General Report on the Health and Social Care Sector 2012-13 and 2013-14**

*Agreed:* The Committee took oral evidence on the above inquiry from:

- Mr Richard Pengelly, *Accounting Officer, DHSSPS*
- Dr Paddy Woods, *Deputy Chief Medical Officer, DHSSPS*
- Ms Julie Thompson, *Deputy Secretary of Resource and Performance Management Group, DHSSPS*
- Mr Kieran Donnelly, *Comptroller and Auditor General, Northern Ireland Audit Office*
- Mr Jack Layberry, *Treasury Officer of Accounts, Department of Finance and Personnel*

The witnesses answered a number of questions put by the Committee and

agreed to provide additional information in writing.

- 2.50pm *Mr Flanagan re-joined the meeting*
- 3.07pm *Mr Girvan left the meeting*
- 3.10pm *Mr Girvan re-joined the meeting*
- 3.15pm *Mr Clarke left the meeting*
- 3.25pm *Mr Flanagan left the meeting*
- 3.36pm *Mr McQuillan left the meeting*
- 3.41pm *Ms Hanna left the meeting. The Committee lost its decision making quorum. In the absence of a decision-making quorum proceedings continued in line with Standing Order 49(5).*
- 3.44pm *Mr McQuillan re-joined the meeting*
- 3.44pm *Mr Dallat left the meeting*
- 3.50pm *Ms Hanna re-joined the meeting. The Committee re-gained its decision making quorum.*
- 3.50pm *Mr Dallat re-joined the meeting*
- 3.51pm *Mr McQuillan re-joined the meeting*
- 4.20pm *The meeting moved into closed session.*

The Committee discussed the evidence session with the C&AG and members of NIAO staff.

**8. Any Other Business**

There was no other business to discuss.

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

Members were informed that the next meeting of the Committee would be at 2.00pm on Wednesday 23 September in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

- 4.32pm *The meeting adjourned.*

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