



Northern Ireland Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY 2 October 2014

Room 29, Parliament Buildings

- Present: Mr Alex Maskey MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Mickey Brady MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Jim Allister MLA
Ms Paula Bradley MLA
Mr Gregory Campbell MLA
Mr Stewart Dickson MLA
Mr Fra McCann MLA
Mr Sammy Wilson MLA
- In Attendance: Dr Kevin Pelan (Assembly Clerk)
Ms Claire McCanny (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Stephen Todd (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Stewart Kennedy (Clerical Supervisor)
- Apologies: Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA

The Chairperson declared the meeting open to the public at 10.00am.

1. Apologies

Apologies were as noted above.

2. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The draft minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2014 were agreed.

3. Chairperson's Business

3.1 *Agreed:* The Committee agreed to sponsor an event for graduates of Business in the Community's 'Aiming Higher' mentoring programme, following a request received by the Chairperson.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 The Committee took note of correspondence that was referred to by Stewart Cuddy at his evidence session with the Committee on 25 September 2014. The evidence had been previously provided to the Committee as part of its call for written evidence.

4.2 Agreed: The Committee discussed the schedule of witnesses for Phase 3 of its Inquiry and agreed to invite the former Minister for Social Development, Nelson McCausland, and former Managing Director of Red Sky, Norman Hayes, to give evidence to the Committee. The Committee agreed that the Committee staff would arrange the scheduling of witnesses.

4.3 Agreed: The Committee agreed that it would not take oral evidence from John Rooney, Red Sky's former Head of Finance, as part of its Inquiry.

4.4 The Chairperson reminded members that the Committee would hold its meeting of 23 October 2014 at the offices of the Housing Rights Service (HRS) in Belfast and that this would be followed by an informal meeting with HRS' Private Tenants' Forum'.

Paula Bradley MLA joined the meeting at 10.08am.

5. Inquiry into allegations, arising from a BBC NI Spotlight programme, aired on 3 July 2013, of impropriety or irregularity relating to NIHE managed contracts and consideration of any resulting actions, Phase 3 – evidence session with Paddy McIntyre, Former Chief Executive, NIHE

The following witness joined the meeting at 10.09am.

- Paddy McIntyre, Former Chief Executive, NIHE

The Committee took evidence from the witness.

The witness left the meeting at 11.27am.

This session was recorded by Hansard.

6. Committee Inquiry into allegations, arising from a BBC NI 'Spotlight' programme aired on 3 July 2013, of impropriety or irregularity relating to NIHE-managed contracts and consideration of any resulting actions, Phase 3 – evidence session with Colm McCaughley, Former Director of Housing and Regeneration, NIHE

The following witness joined the meeting at 11.28am.

- Colm McCaughley, Former Director of Housing and Regeneration, NIHE

The Committee took evidence from the witness.

Stewart Dickson MLA left the meeting at 11.59am.

The witness left the meeting at 12.22pm.

This session was recorded by Hansard.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to follow up with the Department and the NIHE regarding issues that were raised during these two evidence sessions.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to seek clarification on the protocol around the declaration of interests.

Proceedings were suspended at 12.28pm.

Proceedings recommenced in public session at 12.30pm, in Room 29 Parliament Buildings.

Present: Mr Alex Maskey MLA (Chairperson)
 Mr Mickey Brady MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
 Mr Jim Allister MLA
 Ms Paula Bradley MLA
 Mr Gregory Campbell MLA
 Mr Fra McCann MLA
 Mr Sammy Wilson MLA

The Chairperson declared the meeting open to the public.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to reschedule the two departmental briefings scheduled for the afternoon.

7. Correspondence

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note correspondence as outlined on the correspondence memo.

8. Forward Work Programme

The Committee agreed the Forward Work Programme as drafted.

9. AOB

There was no other business.

10. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Social Development will take place on 9 October 2014 at 10.00am in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12.32pm.

Alex Maskey
Chairperson, Committee for Social Development

9 October 2014