



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee for The Executive Office

Minutes of Proceedings

Tuesday 6 January 2026

Meeting Location: Room 30, Parliament Buildings

Present:

Ms Paula Bradshaw MLA (Chairperson)

Mr Stewart Dickson MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Mr Phillip Brett MLA

Ms Pam Cameron MLA

Online:

Mr Timothy Gaston MLA

Ms Carál Ní Chuilín MLA

Ms Áine Murphy MLA

Ms Sinéad McLaughlin MLA

Apologies:

Ms Claire Sugden MLA

In Attendance: Mr Nick Mitford (Assembly Clerk)
Ms Aoife Keating-Fitzpatrick (Snr Assist Assembly Clerk)
Ms Sarah-Anne McKinley (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Neil Porter (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Andrienne Magee (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 2.02pm in public session.

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Declarations of Interest

Áine Murphy declared a standing interest as having a family member who was born in a Mother and Baby institution in relation to the Inquiry (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill.

Pam Cameron declared a standing interest as having worked previously in TEO as a junior Minister from February 2024 until September 2025.

Pam Cameron declared a standing interest on the Inquiry (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill as it stands, she has a family member who may be entitled to a redress payment as part of the second part of this legislation.

Carál Ní Chuilín declared a standing interest on the Inquiry (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill serving as Communities Minister in 2020.

3. Chairperson's Business

There were no items of Chairperson's Business.

4. Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising.

5. Further Deliberation: The Inquiry (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalane Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill

Agreed: The Committee agreed to move into closed session.

Agreed: The Committee agreed for the Bill Clerk to join the meeting for this agenda item.

The meeting moved into closed session at 2:03pm.

Phillip Brett joined the meeting at 2.04pm.

Sinéad McLaughlin joined the meeting at 2.07pm.

The meeting moved into public session at 2.37pm.

The Chairperson advised Members that the Committee had not received any formal notification from the Department regarding any potential amendments it intends to bring forward on the Inquiry (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalane Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to amend its agenda for meeting on Wednesday 14 January 2026 in order to facilitate the informal clause by clause scrutiny of the Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding Departmental proposed amendments of the Bill and to ask whether an indication of these will be provided within the next working day.

Agreed: The Committee agreed for the Bill Clerk to draft potential amendments on clauses 1, 4, 5, 15, 18, 31, 32, 38, 39 and 40.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to postpone the formal clause by clause scrutiny of the Bill originally scheduled to take place on Thursday 8 January until Monday 19 January 2026.

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 January at 2pm in Room 30, Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 2.39pm.

Paula Bradshaw MLA

Chairperson, Committee for the Executive Office

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