



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY 19 JANUARY 2021

Room 30, Parliament Buildings, Belfast

Present: Mr Paul Givan MLA (Chairperson)
Ms Linda Dillon MLA (Deputy Chairperson)*
Mr Doug Beattie MLA
Ms Jemma Dolan MLA
Mr Gordon Dunne MLA
Mr Paul Frew MLA
Ms Emma Rogan MLA*
Ms Rachel Woods MLA

* These Members attended the meeting via video conferencing.

Apologies: Ms Sinéad Bradley MLA

In Attendance: Mrs Christine Darrah (Assembly Clerk)
Miss Leanne Johnston (Assistant Assembly Clerk)

The meeting commenced at 12.34 p.m. in public session.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the oral evidence session should be reported by Hansard.

1. Apologies

As above.

The Clerk informed the Committee that, under Standing Order 115(6), Emma Rogan MLA had delegated authority to the Deputy Chairperson, Linda Dillon MLA to vote on her behalf should she encounter connectivity problems with the video conferencing system.

2. Justice Key Issues – Oral Evidence Session with the Minister of Justice

The Minister of Justice, Naomi Long MLA, and Peter May, Permanent Secretary, Department of Justice joined the meeting at 12.34 p.m.

Mr Frew joined the meeting at 1.01 p.m.

The oral evidence session covered a range of justice issues including an update on the Department's legislative programme, Enforcement of Covid-19 Regulations and the work of the Taskforce led by the Permanent Secretary, the current position regarding the Personal Injury Discount Rate, EU Exit and justice related issues, Legacy issues, Police Ombudsman Funding, the Police Ombudsman Report on police handling of protests published on 22 December 2020 and the Review of the use of Care and Supervision Units in the NI Prison Service.

Mr Frew left the meeting at 1.33 p.m.

The Chairperson left the meeting at 2.03 p.m.

The Deputy Chairperson took the Chair at 2.03 p.m.

Ms Dolan left the meeting at 2.03 p.m.

Mr Dunne left the meeting at 2.03 p.m.

The Deputy Chairperson thanked the Minister and Permanent Secretary for their attendance.

3. Date, Time and Place of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21 January 2021 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 2.11 p.m.

Mr Paul Givan MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Justice