



**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY 24 JUNE 2014, ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,  
BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT**

Present: Mr Stephen Moutray (Chairperson)  
Mr Roy Beggs  
Ms Paula Bradley  
Mr Gregory Campbell  
Mr Paul Givan  
Mr Raymond McCartney  
Ms Caitríona Ruane  
Mr Pat Sheehan

In Attendance:	Mr John Simmons	(Assembly Clerk)
	Ms Kate McCullough	(Assistant Assembly Clerk)
	Mr Jim Nulty	(Clerical Supervisor)

*The meeting opened at 10.33 am in public session.*

**1. Apologies**

*Mr. Gregory Campbell joined the meeting at 10.37am*

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 27 May 2014.

**3. Matters Arising**

The Committee noted a reminder letter has been sent to Party Leaders regarding Party priority issues for future reviews by AERC.

*Agreed:* Members to follow up with relevant Parties.

*Professor Yvonne Galligan joined the meeting at 10.35am*

**4. Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly: Briefing from Professor Yvonne Galligan, Queen's University Belfast**

Members considered a presentation and papers from Professor Yvonne Galligan which focused on models of good practice and actions by other legislatures who had successfully increased the number of women in politics. Key issues discussed included barriers for women, cross party 'space' and producing gender sensitive information.

*Mr. Paul Givan joined the meeting at 10.56am*

*Mr. Séan Rogers left the meeting at 11.01am*

*Ms Paula Bradley left the meeting at 11.03am*

*Mr Pat Sheehan left the meeting at 11.04am*

*Agreed:* Professor Galligan to provide further information on women and politics in the Republic of Ireland.

*Professor Galligan left the meeting at 11.11am*

**5. Vist to the National Assembly for Wales**

Members considered the draft report on the Committee's visit to the National Assembly for Wales. The Chairperson acknowledged the support of the Presiding Officer and her team throughout the visit.

*Agreed:* To make a minor change to the draft Report on one action to be considered by Parties of the Assembly.

*Agreed:* To prepare a programme for a visit to Sweden in September 2014 as part of the Review.

*Mr. Gregory Campbell left the meeting at 11.20am*

**6. Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly – Approach to the Review**

Members considered the draft Terms of Reference, the draft Call for Evidence paper, the draft List of Key Stakeholders to be considered to be invited to respond to Call for Evidence and draft List of Key Stakeholders to be invited to give oral evidence.

*Agreed:* The draft Terms of Reference.

*Agreed:* The draft Call for Evidence paper and to advertise this in the local press.

*Agreed:* The draft list of Key Stakeholders to be considered to be invited to respond to Call for Evidence and include the Northern Ireland Local

Government Association.

*Agreed:* The draft lists of key Stakeholders to be invited to give oral evidence.

*Agreed:* At the first meeting after recess to invite the Women's Resource and Development Agency and a former MLA to give oral evidence on barriers and challenges to women in politics.

Members noted a paper prepared by Assembly Research on Local Election 2014: Results by Party and Gender.

## **7. Correspondence**

Members noted the revised Guides to the Powers and Operation of Statutory and Standing and Ad Hoc Committees for Chairpersons and Members.

## **8. Any Other Business**

Members considered the input to FoI matters during summer recess.

*Agreed:* To delegate authority to the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson during recess to submit views on releasing or withholding information in any non-routine/contentious FoI request.

## **9. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Assembly and Executive Review Committee will be held on Tuesday 16 September at 10.30am in room 21.

*The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11.28am.*

**Mr Stephen Moutray, Chairperson  
Assembly and Executive Review Committee**