



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2015, ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
BALLYMISCAW, STORMONT**

Present: Mr Stephen Moutray (Chairperson)
Mr Pat Sheehan (Deputy Chairperson)
Ms Paula Bradley
Mr Gregory Campbell
Mr Trevor Lunn
Mr Raymond McCartney
Mr Séan Rogers
Mr Alastair Ross
Ms Caitríona Ruane
Ms Robin Swann

In Attendance: Ms Claire McCanny (Senior Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Hilary Cleland-Bogle (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Jim Nulty (Clerical Supervisor)

The meeting opened at 10.03 am in public session.

1. Apologies

Mr Robin Swann MLA indicated that he would be late.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 February 2015.

3. Matters Arising

The Committee noted the letter and invitation from the Speaker with regards to the Committee's Review on Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly and the visit by Dame Rosemary Butler AM, the Presiding Officer of the National Assembly for Wales.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to include the letter from the Speaker in Appendix 4 of the Committee's Report.

The Committee noted the amendments to the Clerk's paper from 5 February 2015 and the extract from the Assembly Research paper regarding legislation introduced by Dáil Éireann on financial penalties for political parties.

4. Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly – Committee Consideration of Final Report

The Chairperson advised members that the purpose of this agenda item was to continue the Committee's discussion on finalising its Review of Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly and there was an option to move into closed session for this.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to move into closed session at 10.05am

The Committee considered its final draft Report on the Review of Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Ms Caitríona Ruane MLA joined the meeting at 10.06am

Mr Alastair Ross MLA joined the meeting at 10.06am

Mr Pat Sheehan MLA joined the meeting at 10.15am

Mr Robin Swann MLA joined the meeting at 10.37 am

Mr Alastair Ross MLA left the meeting at 11.07am

Mr Gregory Campbell MLA left the meeting at 11.24am

Mr Séan Rogers MLA left the meeting at 11.35am

5. Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly – Committee Final Agreement of the Report.

The Committee moved into open session at 11.42am

The Chairperson advised the Committee that the purpose of this session was to allow the Committee to agree the final draft of the Review of Women in Politics and the Northern Ireland Assembly and the draft motion for Assembly Plenary debate on the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the 'covering pages' and the 'Executive Summary' section stand part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the 'Summary of Recommendations' section stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the ‘Introduction’ section stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the ‘Committee’s Approach to the Review’ section stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the ‘Committee’s Approach to the Review’ section stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the ‘Committee Scrutiny’ section stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the ‘Committee Consideration of Key Barriers and Challenges’ stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the ‘Committee Consideration of Positive Actions’ section stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the ‘Conclusions and Recommendations’ section stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the ‘Glossary of Terms’ section stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 1 of the Report, the Extract of the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Review, stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 2 of the Report, the Minutes of Evidence relating to the Review, stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 3 of the Report, Stakeholders Submission stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 4 of the Report, Correspondence and other papers relating to the Review, stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 5 of the Report, Assembly Research Papers, stands part of the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed “That the Report be the sixth Report of the Assembly and Executive Review Committee to the Assembly.”

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Report be debated in Plenary and agreed the wording of a draft motion for the debate.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Committee Secretariat makes any amendments to the Report as agreed by the Committee and takes the necessary actions to ensure that the Committee report is printed and published in accordance with Assembly guidelines.

6. Any Other Business

None

7. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 24 February 2015, 10.00am in Room 21.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11.48 am

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