

MEETING OF THE CHAIRPERSONS' LIAISON GROUP
TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2013

- Present: Mr Patsy McGlone MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Ms Michaela Boyle MLA
Mr Paul Frew MLA
Mr Paul Givan MLA
Ms Anna Lo MBE MLA
Mr Alex Maskey MLA
Mr Stephen Moutray MLA
Miss Michelle McIlveen MLA
Ms Maeve McLaughlin MLA
Mr Mervyn Storey MLA
- In attendance: Dr Gareth McGrath, Director of Clerking and Reporting
Ms Nuala Dunwoody, Clerk Assistant
Ms Kathy O'Hanlon, Clerk to the Liaison Group
Ms Lucia Wilson, Committee Clerk
Mr George McClelland, Clerical Supervisor
Mr Michael Greer, Clerical Supervisor
- Apologies: Mr Robin Swann (Chairperson)
Mr Danny Kinahan MLA
Mr Daithí McKay
Mr Mike Nesbitt MLA

1.11 pm The Deputy Chairperson opened the meeting in closed session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above

2. Chairpersons Business

Mr McGlone informed chairpersons that, in accordance with the agreed rotation by Party, he had been appointed as Deputy Chairperson and Robin Swann had been appointed as Chairperson to the Liaison Group for the 2013-14 session.

3. Minutes of the meeting on 18th June 2013

The minutes of the meeting on 18th June 2013 were agreed.

4. Matters Arising

Disabled lift

Kathy O'Hanlon provided an update on the on-going procurement issues regarding the disabled lift.

Agreed: The group agreed to receive an update from Building Services at the next meeting of CLG.

13.16 Mervyn Storey joined the meeting

Commissioner for Standards' role in relation to Committee meetings

Nuala Dunwoody advised the group that the Commissioner for Standards can investigate complaints against members for their conduct in Committee meetings as, unlike the proceedings of the Assembly Chamber, Committee proceedings are not exempted by the Code of Conduct.

Agreed: the group agreed to ask the Committee for Standards and Privileges to consider this issue in any future review of the Code of Conduct.

13.20 Stephen Moutray left the meeting

Electronic Committee Packs

Patsy McGlone suggested that the group may wish to receive an update on the roll out of Electronic Committee Packs at the next meeting. The group agreed that it may be beneficial to receive further training from IS Office on the devices.

Agreed: An update on the Electronic Committee Packs will be included on the Agenda for the next CLG meeting.

13.27 Paul Frew and Michelle McIlveen left the meeting

Late receipt of monitoring round submissions by Committees

Patsy McGlone asked the Chairs for feedback on the delivery of monitoring round papers since the Chairperson wrote to the Executive after the last meeting. He advised the group that the Effective Financial Scrutiny Project Group will consider what else can be done to address the issue when it meets in two weeks' time.

Budget 2012-13 outturn

The group noted the paper on the 2012-13 budget outturns.

Long Gallery

Anna Lo raised the issue of not being able to book the Long Gallery for Committee events due to it being booked 6 months in advance.

5. Committee Review Group Report

Lucia Wilson spoke to her report on the Committee Review Group (CRG) and gave a brief overview of the main findings and recommendations of the group.

Chairpersons noted the report.

6. Business Efficiency Pilot Update

Nuala Dunwoody updated the group on the BEP pilot and advised Chairs of the new staffing structure in the pilot committee team.

7. Draft Forward Work Programme

The group noted the Forward Work Programme

8. Any other business

Alex Maskey, as Chair of CRG, thanked Lucia Wilson and Gareth McGrath for their work on the CRG project.

9. Date, time and venue of next meeting

The next meeting of the Liaison Group is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 22nd October at 1.00pm in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

1.45pm The Chairperson adjourned the meeting.

Mr Patsy McGlone, Deputy Chairperson

22 October 2013