



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

# Committee for The Executive Office

## Minutes of Proceedings

**Wednesday 9 September 2026**

**Meeting Location:** Room 30, Parliament Buildings

**Present:**

Ms Paula Bradshaw MLA (Chairperson)

Mr Stewart Dickson MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Mr Phillip Brett MLA

Ms Sinéad Ennis MLA

Mr Timothy Gaston MLA

Ms Carál Ní Chuilín MLA

Ms Claire Sugden MLA

**Online:**

None

**Apologies:**

Ms Deborah Erskine MLA

Ms Sinéad McLaughlin MLA

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

*The meeting commenced at 2.00pm in public session.*

### **1. Apologies**

As above.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. Chairperson's Business**

#### **Committee Membership Change**

The Chairperson advised Members that Sinéad Ennis has replaced Áine Murphy as a Member of the Committee.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to Áine Murphy MLA to formally thank her for her service and contribution to the work of the Committee.

#### **3.1 & 3.2 The Dromore Group – Historical Clerical Child Abuse (HCCA)**

The Chairperson advised Members she was copied into correspondence from the Dromore Group to the deputy First Minister relating to HCCA and its request to discuss the three TEO Research Reports and the Christian Family Centre in Armoy.

The Chairperson also advised Members that the Dromore Group have sent further correspondence to the First and deputy First Minister regarding the recommendations of the research findings.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the deputy First Minister to ask if they have responded to the Dromore group highlighting the issues raised and if so, to provide the Committee with details of that response.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the First and deputy First Minister to ask how they intend to implement this recommendation, including any proposed arrangements for establishing a working group involving survivors and officials, and to provide an indicative timeframe for progressing this work.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Dromore to advise them of the scheduled briefing with the Department on HCCA on 30 September 2026 and to invite the Group to provide an oral briefing to the Committee following the Department's evidence session.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the PSNI to ask whether it has received any reports or complaints relating to activities at the Armoy Christian Centre.

### **3.3 Individual – Victims' Payment Scheme**

The Chairperson advised Members that she received correspondence from an individual regarding concerns in relation to the Ministry of Defence handling claims of armed forces veteran applicants to the Troubles Permanent Disablement Scheme.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to forward this correspondence to the Department of Justice for consideration.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Victims' Payments Board to request, in the first instance, a written update on applications to the Scheme following its closure to new applications, including information on the number of applications received and the number of applications currently being processed.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to respond to the individual to ask whether they have raised the issues outlined in their correspondence with the Veterans' Commissioner.

### **3.4 Strong Safe Aware NI – Ending Violence Against Women & Girls**

The Chairperson advised Members that she received correspondence from Strong Safe Aware NI, a structured women's safety programme developed to provide practical, real-world skills to women and girls across Northern Ireland.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to arrange an informal meeting with the Chair and the deputy Chair to learn more about the programme in the first instance.

### **3.5 The Peace Summit Partnership - Invitation**

The Chairperson advised Members that she received an invite as Chair to contribute to a roundtable event 'Programme for Government Commitment to Peace – What Has Happened' organised by the Hume Foundation in Parliament Buildings on Tuesday 15 September 2026.

The Committee noted this item.

## **4. Draft Minutes**

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1 July 2026.

## **5. Matters Arising**

### **5.1 Truth Recovery Independent Panel (TRIP) – Final Report**

The Chairperson advised Members that TRIP published its Final Report on the 7 July 2026. A copy was emailed to Members and includes 70 recommendations: 28 to the forthcoming public inquiry, 39 to the Executive and 3 to future independent panels.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note this item and agreed to invite the Panel to provide an oral briefing on its Final Report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask for an update on the anticipated timescale for the TEO consultation on the Redress Rules and Regulations arising from the delegated legislation from the Inquiry (Mother and Baby

Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill, including a date of when the consultation is expected to commence.

## **5.2 The Executive Office Research Reports – Historical Clerical Child Abuse (HCCA)**

The Chairperson advised Members that TEO published the reports from the three research studies commissioned into HCCA on 22 July 2026.

The Committee noted this item.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to invite the authors of the three Research Reports to provide an oral briefing to the Committee.

Sinead Ennis asked if the Committee could arrange an oral briefing on the Conversion Practices (Criminalisation) Bill, with the Bill sponsor to assess if there any elements cross cutting to TEO.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to contact the Bill sponsor Eóin Tennyson.

## **5.3 & 5.6 First Minister & deputy First Minister and COSICA - Resignation**

The Chairperson advised Members the First and deputy Minister wrote to the Committee on 10 July 2026 to advise Members of the resignation of Fiona Ryan (COSICA). The Chairperson also advised Members that Fiona Ryan wrote to the Committee advising that she left the role in August 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note this item and agreed to the following actions:

- To write to the First and deputy First Minister to ask whether the role of the Commissioner will be replaced given the importance for victims and survivors, if so when the recruitment competition for the post is expected to commence, and what support arrangements will be put in place for the office of COSICA while future arrangements are being considered.
- To write to Fiona Ryan to thank her for her service during her tenure and to express the Committee's best wishes for success in her new role.

- To write to the office of COSICA to ask whether its previous invitation to attend the Committee and present its working paper on the need for a child abuse prevalence study in Northern Ireland can still proceed.

## **6. Oral Briefing – NI Survival Council Nothing About Us Expert Survivor Insights Report Findings**

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed for Hansard to record the oral evidence session.

The witnesses joined the meeting at 2.19pm.

Members received an oral briefing from:

- Nikella Holmes, Representative, NI Survival Council
- Michelle Duffy, Representative, NI Survival Council

The witnesses provided an oral briefing on its report 'Nothing About Us Expert Survivor Insights'.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for their attendance.

*Phillip Brett left the meeting at 3.08pm and returned at 3.11pm.*

The witnesses left the meeting at 3.11pm.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Minister of Health regarding waiting times for children who are victims of childhood abuse in accessing support services, and to highlight the Health related recommendations contained within the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Minister of Education to request further information on any plans relating to Relationships and Sexuality Education, including how language and terminology relating to childhood abuse are communicated and explained to children and young people in an age-appropriate manner. Also to highlight the Education related recommendations contained within the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the First and deputy First Minister to ask the following information:

- To ask what discussions, if any, have taken place regarding support services for victims of childhood sexual abuse.
- To highlight concerns regarding the perceived lack of engagement between Ministers, and the NI Survivor Council.
- To seek clarification on how this area of work aligns with wider policy work currently being undertaken in relation to HCCA.
- To ask whether consideration is being given to the formal recognition of the NI Survivor Council, including any future funding model arrangements which could be used for survivor councils going forward.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Justice Minister to highlight the Justice recommendations contained within the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Communities to request information on books relating to consent that are currently available to young people through public libraries across Northern Ireland and through Sure Start programmes.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to take a short comfort break and suspend the meeting.

*The meeting was suspended at 3:14pm.*

*Proceedings continued in open session at 3.21pm with the following Members present: Paula Bradshaw, Stewart Dickson, Phillip Brett, Sinéad Ennis, Timothy Gaston and Claire Sugden.*

*Carál Ní Chuilín re-joined the meeting at 3.23pm.*

## **7. Delegated Legislation – SL1: Period Products (Free Provision) Act (Northern Ireland) 2002 (The Act)**

The Committee considered a proposal by the Department to amend S.R. 2024 No.185 by updating the list of public service bodies specified under section 2 of The Act.

**Agreed:** To note receipt of the SL1 and the proposed Statutory Rule, which will be published as part of the call for views.

**Agreed:** That the SL1 will be considered at the meeting on 30 September 2026.

**Agreed:** That departmental officials are asked to brief the Committee on the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

## **7.1 SR 2026 No. 138 The Salaries (Public Services Ombudsman) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026**

The Committee considered SR 2026 No. 138 The Salaries (Public Services Ombudsman) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the Statutory Rule subject to ESR approval.

## **8. Written Briefing – Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission (NIJAC)**

The Committee considered a written update from NIJAC detailing its key activities, achievements, current challenges, and the issues it faces, as well as outlining its forthcoming priorities and planned areas of work.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to invite NIJAC to provide an oral briefing to the Committee.

## 9. Correspondence

- i. The Committee noted the summary of Committee correspondence.
- ii. The Committee considered correspondence from TEO regarding the Department's five year business plan.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Permanent Secretary to brief the Committee on the updated 5-Year Sustainability Plan as soon as possible and to ask that this includes a list of all consultations, reviews and strategies currently live and, or under review within TEO.

- iii. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee on Standards in relation to the conduct of witnesses in Committee meetings.

Stewart Dickson declared an interest as Member of the Standards Committee

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed for the Clerk seek further guidance on what constituents reasonable questions of witnesses, witnesses appearing before the Committee (who are also MLA's) and protections available to both witnesses and Members in relation to any potential misconduct arising from evidence given in the course of Committee proceedings.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to reshare with Members the legal advice previously provided in relation to the nature of invitation/questioning, as well as the updated guidance for witnesses appearing before Assembly Committees.

- iv. The Committee considered correspondence from an individual in relation to a request for a Northern Ireland wide review of safeguarding and accountability in independent churches.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask for its view on a Northern Ireland wide review of safeguarding and accountability in independent churches as part of its work being done in relation to HCCA.

- v. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for the Economy in relation to the Renewable Electricity Generation Bill.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note this correspondence and agreed to write to the Department to ask whether TEO has any views or comments on the Bill and whether there are any implications or any role for TEO arising from the Bill.

- vi. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for the Communities regarding the Charities (Amendment) Bill.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note this correspondence and agreed to write to the Department to ask whether TEO has any views or comments on the Bill and whether there are any implications or any role for TEO arising from the Bill.

- vii. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for Justice in relation to the Victims and Witnesses of Crime Bill.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note this correspondence and agreed to write to the Department asking whether TEO has any views or comments on the Bill and whether there are any implications or any role for TEO arising from the Bill.

- viii. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for the Communities regarding the Housing (Amendment) Bill.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note this correspondence and agreed to write to the Department to ask whether TEO has any views or comments on the Bill and whether there are any implications or any role for TEO arising from the Bill.

- ix. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for the Communities regarding The Conversion Practices (Criminalisation) Bill.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note this correspondence and agreed to write to the Department to ask whether TEO has any views or comments on the Bill and whether there are any implications or any role for TEO arising from the Bills.

- x. The Committee considered correspondence from the Minority Ethnic Support Armagh regarding legal advice.

The Committee noted this item.

The Chairperson placed on record that the complaints made against her during the oral evidence session with Minority Ethnic Support Armagh have been considered by the Standards Committee and deemed inadmissible.

- xi. The Committee considered a response from the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission to its correspondence of 2 July 2026 asking the Chief Commissioner to reconsider her decision to attend a future meeting to discuss the work of ICRIR.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to consider which organisations may be best placed to provide independent scrutiny on the work of the ICRIR.

- xii. The Committee considered a response from the Head of the Civil Service (HOCS) to its correspondence of 3 July 2026 requesting information in relation to its review relating to the conduct of Jeffrey Donaldson during his tenure as a junior Minister.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to HOCS asking that they send the further update on the status of the review as soon as practically possible.

- xiii. The Committee considered a response from the Minister for Communities to its correspondence of 19 June 2026 regarding access to records and the Inquiry (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Communities to ask if the files from the Down and Connor Diocese relating to the St Joseph's Children's Home were collected in July as scheduled.

- xiv. The Committee considered a response from the First Minister and deputy First Minister to its correspondence of 1 May 2026 in relation to the attack on Dunmurry Police Station.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask for a date that the findings will be considered by and that the findings of the review of the T:BUC Strategy are forwarded to the Committee asap. Also to request that an oral briefing on the Communities in Transition programme and the T:BUC review takes place before Christmas recess.

- xv. The Committee considered correspondence from Queens University Belfast - a report exploring peace in Northern Ireland which was launched on Wednesday 2 September.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to arrange an oral briefing with the authors of the report from Queen's University to discuss the report's findings.

- xvi. The Committee considered a response from the First Minister and deputy First Minister to its correspondence of 21 May 2026 regarding Interfaith Clerical Abuse Survivors.

The Committee noted this item.

- xvii. The Committee considered a response from the ICRIR to its correspondence of 3 July 2026 in relation to the outstanding requests to the Irish Government.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Secretary of State to ask him for his position on the matter and to request an updated timeline for the Northern Ireland Troubles Bill.

- xviii. The Committee considered a response from the First Minister and deputy First Minister to its correspondence of 24 June 2026 regarding a written briefing in relation to the TEO Contingency Planning Envelope.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to schedule an oral briefing with Departmental officials to explain where TEO sits in terms of nearly six months of spending undertaken this financial year. Also for the department to provide Outturn and Forecast Outturn data for April to August set next to Actual Outturn from the same months of the 2025-26 financial year for key budget lines.

- xix. The Committee considered a response from TEO to its correspondence of 2 July 2026 asking for further information on what organisations are piloting AVA, or have plans to pilot it, as part of its funding given to Goggleminds.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask for a timeline of the evaluation report of the EVAWG SBRI/ Challenge Fund and that a copy is sent to the Committee. Also that this is included as a briefing topic when officials next before the Committee before Christmas recess to discuss EVAWG.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to Goggleminds to ask what organisations are piloting AVA, or have plans to pilot it, as part of its funding from TEO.

- xx. The Committee noted an invitation from the Northern Ireland Marine Task Force.
- xxi. The Committee noted a response from the Minister of Finance to its correspondence of 18 June 2026 to request details of any bids submitted by Departments since the launch of the EVAWG Strategic Framework.
- xxii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Northern Ireland Youth Assembly: Monthly Update - July and August 2026.

- xxiii. The Committee noted a Hansard Report – Salaries (Public Services Ombudsman) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026 – 1 July 2026.
- xxiv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance regarding the 2025-26 Public Expenditure Outturn and Forecast Outturn – May (R2) Position.
- xxv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Department of Finance – TEO Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26.
- xxvi. The Committee noted a response from the First Minister and deputy First Minister to its correspondence of 2 July 2026 regarding COSICA.
- xxvii. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office - Ministers attend Somme memorial events.
- xxviii. The Committee noted a response from the Department of Infrastructure to its correspondence of 18 June 2026 to ask the Minister why no bids have been made by Department for Infrastructure ALB's in relation to the EVAWG framework.
- xxix. The Committee noted a response from the Minister of Health to its correspondence of 12 June 2026 asking that the Minister keeps the Committee updated on the completion of Phase 1 of the evaluation of the Regional Trauma Network.
- xxx. The Committee noted an invitation from the Northern Ireland Fiscal Council.
- xxxi. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office – First Minister and deputy First Minister highlight regeneration, economic growth and community care during North West visit.
- xxxii. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office - FM and First Minister and deputy First Minister welcome the Final Report of the Truth Recovery Independent Panel.
- xxxiii. The Committee noted a response from the Office of Identity and Cultural Expression to its correspondence of 25 June 2026 regarding the establishment of the Castlereagh Foundation.

- xxxiv. The Committee noted a response from Derry & Strabane to its correspondence of 25 June 2026 requesting a breakdown of the budget allocated to the Local Change Fund to each District Electoral Area within the council in tackling EVAWG.
- xxxv. The Committee noted a response from The Executive Office to its correspondence of 1 May 2026 requesting further information in relation to the Commissioner for Public Appointments Northern Ireland (COPNI).
- xxxvi. The Committee noted a response from the Minister for Education to its correspondence of 3 July 2026 in relation to correspondence from parents in relation to safeguarding allegations at the City of Armagh High School.
- xxxvii. The Committee noted a response from the PSNI to its Committee's correspondence of 4 June 2026 following the evidence session from the Migrants Rights Network on 3 June 2026.
- xxxviii. The Committee noted correspondence from Nikella Holmes regarding a change of representation on ICAS.
- xxxix. The Committee noted a response from the Minister for Communities to its correspondence of 18 June 2026, requesting a breakdown of the nature of services, as well as the volume of calls received since the introduction of the new telephone and text service for the Armed Forces community.
- xl. The Committee noted a response from the Minister of Finance to its Committee's correspondence of 19 June 2026 requesting details of any bids submitted by Departments to be ring-fenced in relation to access to records and the Inquiry (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill.
- xli. The Committee noted a response from the First and deputy First Minister to its correspondence of 1 May 2026 in relation to a number of issues relating to access to records and the Inquiry (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses) and Redress Scheme Bill.
- xlii. The Committee noted correspondence from the NIA Business Office regarding the Northern Ireland Equality Commission Annual Accounts and Report.

- xliv. The Committee noted an updated response from the Commissioner for Ulster Scots and Ulster British Tradition to the Committee's correspondence of 24 April 2026 in relation to the amount of money incurred on legal fees to date.
- xliv. The Committee noted a response from the PSNI to its correspondence of 25 June 2026 regarding Race Relations.
- xliv. The Committee noted correspondence from The Executive Office regarding the publication of the Research papers on Historical Childhood Abuse.
- xlvi. The Committee noted a response from The Executive Office to its correspondence of 5 June 2026 regarding the Office of Identity and Cultural Expression (OICE).

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to OICE to ask for an update on its requested meeting with the Secretary of State.

- xlvi. The Committee noted a response from The Executive Office to its correspondence of 18 June 2026 in relation to the Armed Forces Covenant.
- xlvi. The Committee noted a response from The Executive Office to its correspondence of 28 May 2026 regarding the Covid-19 Inquiry Reports for Modules 3 & 4.
- xlix. The Committee noted correspondence from an individual regarding the Committee's meeting on 13 May 2026 with VSS.
- I. The Committee noted correspondence from the NIA Business Office regarding the Strategic Investment Board Annual Review and Financial Statements 2025/26.
- li. The Committee noted a Written Ministerial Statement from The Executive Office – First Minister and deputy First Minister publish Historical Clerical Childhood abuse reports.
- lii. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office – First Minister and deputy First Minister publish Historical Clerical Child Abuse reports.

- liii. The Committee noted correspondence from The Executive Office regarding the commencement of the appointment process for the Non Judicial member of the Truth Recovery Process.
- liv. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office - First Minister and deputy First Minister launch competition to appoint non-judicial member of the Truth Recovery Redress Service.
- lv. The Committee noted Correspondence from the House of Lords Constitutional Committee regarding a new inquiry into 'The UK's constitutional safeguards'.
- lvi. The Committee noted correspondence from The Executive Office Investment Strategy NI – Investing Activity Report.
- lvii. The Committee noted a response from the First Minister and deputy First Minister to its correspondence of 4 June 2026 requesting an update on the Race Relations Legislation.
- lviii. The Committee noted an invitation from Kilfenora Céilí Band.
- lix. The Committee noted a response from The Executive Office to its correspondence of 6 March 2026 requesting information around the £1.2million Capital DEL reduction regarding the timing of the Urban Villages capital grant spend.
- lx. The Committee noted correspondence from The Executive Office - Partnership Agreement between the Executive Office and the Commissioner for Public Appointments.
- lxi. The Committee noted correspondence from The Executive Office – TEO 2025-26 Consolidated Annual Report and Accounts.
- lxii. The Committee noted a response from the First Minister and deputy First Minister to its correspondence of 22 June 2026 regarding written updates on the work that Departments are undertaking under EVAWG framework.
- lxiii. The Committee noted a response from the First Minister and deputy First Minister to its correspondence of 18 June 2026 to request that they and/or

Junior Ministers meet with the Veterans Commissioner in relation to the Armed Forces Covenant, should such a request be made.

- lxiv. The Committee noted a Written Ministerial Statement from the First Minister and deputy First Minister- Appointment of a new Board Member of the Office of Identity and Cultural Expression.
- lxv. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office - Replacement member of the Office of Identity and Cultural Expression appointed.
- lxvi. The Committee noted correspondence from The Executive Office - Overseas Offices quarterly update February.
- lxvii. The Committee noted a Written Ministerial Statement from the First Minister and deputy First Minister - Publication of the Covid-19 Inquiry report for Module 5.
- lxviii. The Committee noted correspondence from the First Minister and deputy First Minister - Launch of the Public Consultation on the Northern Ireland Artificial Intelligence Strategy.
- lxix. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office - The Executive Office launches consultation on Artificial Intelligence Strategy.
- lxx. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office - Executive calls on Prime Minister to meet to address mounting financial pressures.
- lxxi. The Committee noted correspondence from the NIA Business Office - HIA Redress Board Annual Report - 2025-26.
- lxxii. The Committee noted an invitation from Belfast One - Belfast's Late-Night Bus Service pilot.
- lxxiii. The Committee noted correspondence from the First Minister and deputy First Minister - Launch of the Call for Views to Inform the Development of an Evolved Good Relations Framework.
- lxxiv. The Committee noted an invitation from the Community Relations Council - Invitation to "Making a Difference" Conference.

- lxxv. The Committee noted a news release from The Executive Office - First Minister Michelle O'Neill and deputy first Minister Emma Little-Pengelly have met with new Prime Minister Andy Burnham.
- lxxvi. The Committee noted correspondence from The Executive Office - Partnership Agreement between TEO and the Commissioner for Public Appointments NI (CPANI) - 15 May 2026.
- lxxvii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Youth Assembly for Northern Ireland.
- lxxviii. The Committee noted an invitation from the Commission for Victims' and Survivors.
- lxxix. The Committee noted a response from The Executive Office to its correspondence of 28 May 2026 to ask whether 'spiritual abuse' is being considered as part of HCCA and to request information on the pathways available for reporting such abuse.

## **10. Forward Work Programme**

The Committee considered the draft forward work programme.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Northern Ireland Office to request an update on the progress of Claire Sugden's Members Bill, including a timeframe when the Secretary of State will make a decision on approval of the Bill.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the First and deputy First Minister requesting a confirmed date for the rescheduled oral briefing that remains outstanding.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to proceed with the remaining briefings as set out in the forward work programme.

### **11. Any Other Business**

Timothy Gaston declared an interest, having been present during legal proceedings concerning signage at Grand Central Station and the Department for Infrastructure (DfI).

The Committee agreed to consider the matter further when court proceedings have concluded and a judgement has been made.

### **12. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday 16 September 2026 at 2.00pm in Room 30, Parliament Buildings.

*The meeting was adjourned at 4.02pm*

**Paula Bradshaw MLA**

**Chairperson, Committee for The Executive Office**

**Wednesday 16 September 2026**