Northern Ireland Assembly

# Public Accounts Committee

## Minutes of Proceedings

## Thursday, 22 October 2026

**Meeting Location:** Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings

**Present:** Daniel McCrossan MLA (Chairperson)
Tom Buchanan MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Cathal Boylan MLA
Stephen Dunne MLA
Colm Gildernew MLA
David Honeyford MLA
Mike Nesbitt MLA
Gareth Wilson MLA

**Apologies:** Áine Murphy MLA

**In Attendance:** Lucia Wilson (Committee Clerk)
Angela McParland (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Karen Barry (Clerical Supervisor)
Yannie Mahood (Clerical Officer)

The meeting opened in closed session at 3.00pm.

## 1. Apologies

As above.

## 2. Draft minutes

**Agreed**: The Committee agreed the draft minutes of the meeting on 15th October 2026.

## 3. Declarations of Interest

No Member declared an interest.

## 4. Chairperson's Business

There was no Chairperson's Business.

## 5. Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising.

## 6. Correspondence

The following official joined the meeting at 3.00pm:

- Dorinnia Carville, Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland (C&AG).

The Committee considered four written submissions received by the Committee for its inquiry 'A Strategic Review of the Planning Appeals Commission' and noted the final deadline for submissions is 30th October 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to receive further oral evidence from the Department of Justice, the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunal

Service, and the Planning Appeals Commission, in a joint evidence session.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to receive written briefings from officials ahead of the joint session on matters arising in written submissions received for the inquiry.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to invite individuals, who had provided written submissions to the inquiry, to attend the Committee in closed session to speak to their submissions.

## 7. Draft Forward Work Programme

The following official joined the meeting at 3.30pm:

- Dorinnia Carville, Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland (C&AG).

The Committee considered its list of currently retained C&AG reports and a draft Forward Work Programme.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed an interest, in principal, to holding an inquiry into the Northern Ireland Audit Office review, currently in progress, on resilience to animal diseases in Northern Ireland.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed the draft Forward Work Programme.

## 8. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

## 9. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next Committee meeting will take place on Thursday 5th November 2026 at 2.00pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 4.00pm.

**Chairperson**
**Public Accounts Committee**
**5 November 2026**