



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

**COMMITTEE FOR EMPLOYMENT AND LEARNING
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

WEDNESDAY, 28 JANUARY 2015

ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Mr Robin Swann MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Thomas Buchanan MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Sydney Anderson MLA
Mr David Hilditch MLA
Mr William Irwin MLA
Ms Anna Lo MLA
Mr Fra McCann MLA
Ms Bronwyn McGahan MLA
Mr Pat Ramsey MLA
Ms Claire Sugden MLA

In Attendance: Mrs Cathie White (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Vincent Gribbin (Assistant Clerk)
Mr Johnny Lawless (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Noreen Hayward (Clerical Officer)

Apologies: Mr Phil Flanagan MLA

The meeting opened in public session at 10:01 am.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Chairperson's Business

None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2015

Agreed: The minutes of the meeting on 21 January 2015 were agreed.

4. Matters arising

- The Committee noted a list of matters arising from the meeting on 21 January 2015.

5. Correspondence

The Committee considered the following items of correspondence:

- Correspondence from Include Youth regarding Care Leavers Week 2015.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to schedule the Care Leavers shadowing event for Tuesday 21 October 2015.

10:04 am Mr David Hilditch joined the meeting.

- Correspondence from the Forum for Adult Learning NI regarding the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education Forum.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Forum for Adult Learning NI requesting feedback from the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education Forum events.

- Correspondence from the Northern Ireland EU Affairs Manager providing the EU Matters Bulletin for January 2015,

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Correspondence from Include Youth thanking the Committee for the opportunity to brief the Committee on its Aiming Higher Project.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Correspondence from the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment regarding the terms of reference in their Inquiry into Growth and Jobs.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister providing an update on the Committee European Priorities for 2015.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Departmental response to Committee request for update on the monitoring of Post Project Evaluations.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Correspondence from the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment regarding its Inquiry into Economic Growth and Job Creation.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment requesting to be kept update on the Inquiry.

- Correspondence from the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment regarding the Northern Ireland Economic Strategy Year 1 & 2 Monitoring Reports.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Correspondence from the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland including the Department for Employment and Learning Investing Activity Report for January 2015.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Correspondence from St. Mary's University College regarding the joint showcase event and Initial Teacher Education.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Invitation from the British Council and Northern Ireland Science Festival to the final of FameLab.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the invitation.

- Invitation from the Engineering Training Council NI to the International Women's Day.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the invitation.

- Invitation from the Landscape Institute Northern Ireland to the 'Designing and Delivering Shared Space in Conflict' Event.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the invitation.

6. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted the draft Forward Work Programme to 8 April 2015.

7. Briefing from the Confucius Institute at Ulster University on its work

10:08 am The representatives joined the meeting.

The Committee was briefed by Professor Sir Richard Barnett, Vice-Chancellor, Ulster University, Dr David Barr, Head of the School of Languages, Ulster University, Professor Jan Jedrzejewski, Dean of the Confucius Institute and Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Ulster University and Mrs Yan Liu, Director of the Confucius Institute, Ulster University.

10:09 am Ms Claire Sugden joined the meeting.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

10:27 am Mr William Irwin joined the meeting.

10:40 am Ms Anna Lo left the meeting.

10:58 am Mr Pat Ramsey left the meeting.

11:01 am The representatives left the meeting.

8. Briefing from Assembly Research and Information Service - Employment of working age adults with a disability

11:01 am The researcher joined the meeting.

The Committee was briefed by Mr Eoin Murphy, Researcher, Assembly Research and Information Service.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

Agreed: The Researcher agreed to provide further information on a range of issues.

11:14 am The researcher left the meeting.

9. Any other business

The Committee considered the Private Members Bill on The Children's Services Co-operation Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to request a Research Paper on increasing the age limit for a Statement of Educational Need from 19 years old to 21 years old.

10. Date, time and place of next meeting

The Committee noted that the next meeting should be held on Wednesday 28 January at 1.00 pm in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

11:15 am The Chairperson adjourned the meeting.

Mr Robin Swann MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Employment & Learning

11 February 2015