

COMMITTEE FOR FINANCE AND PERSONNEL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 18 JUNE 2014
ROOM 30, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Mr Daithí McKay (Chairperson)
Mr Dominic Bradley (Deputy Chairperson)
Ms Michaela Boyle MLA
Mr Leslie Cree MBE, MLA
Mr Paul Girvan MLA
Mr John McCallister MLA
Mr Ian McCrea MLA
Mr Mitchel McLaughlin MLA
Mr Adrian McQuillan MLA
Mr Peter Weir MLA

In Attendance: Mr Shane McAteer (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Phil Pateman (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Joe Westland (Clerical Supervisor)
Miss Heather Graham (Clerical Officer)

Apologies: Mrs Judith Cochrane MLA

The meeting commenced at 10:08 in public session.

Agreed: that agenda items 4 and 6 are covered by Hansard and the Official Report published on the Assembly's website.

Agreed: to provide the applicable DFP officials with notification in advance of the areas for discussion in the session for agenda item 5.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Draft Minutes of Proceedings of 11 June 2014

Agreed: that the minutes are published on the Assembly website.

John McCallister joined the meeting at 10:09

Ian McCrea joined the meeting at 10:09

3. Matters Arising

Table of requests for information from the Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP)

The Committee noted the summary table of requests for information from DFP which provided an update on any matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

PEACE and INTERREG programmes.

Agreed: to forward copies of the mid-programme evaluations considered last week and any other relevant papers to the Committee for Regional Development for information.

4. Rating Issues – Update briefing from DFP

The Committee received an update briefing on various aspects of Rating from the following departmental officials:

- Brian McClure, Head of Rating Policy Division, Central Finance Group, DFP;
- Alan Brontë, Director of Mapping and Valuation Services, Land and Property Services; and
- Tracey Ayre, Rating Policy Division, DFP.

The session was recorded by Hansard

Mitchel McLaughlin left the meeting at 10:13

Mitchel McLaughlin re-joined the meeting at 10:29

Adrian McQuillan left the meeting at 10:45

Peter Weir left the meeting at 10:45

Peter Weir re-joined the meeting at 10:49

Daithí McKay, Committee Chairperson left the meeting at 10:50. Dominic Bradley, Deputy Chairperson took the Chair at 10:50.

Adrian McQuillan re-joined the meeting at 10:51

Agreed: that the DFP officials will take follow up action on issues discussed during the session.

5. DFP Performance against PfG and Business Plan Targets – Briefing from DFP

The Committee received a briefing on Departmental performance against Programme for Government (PfG) and Business Plan targets 2013-14 from the following departmental officials:

- Stephen Peover, DFP Permanent Secretary;
- Kathryn Hill, Head of Business Planning and Corporate Governance; and
- Brigitte Worth, Finance Director, DFP.

Mitchel McLaughlin left the meeting at 11:40

John McCallister left the meeting at 11:41

Peter Weir left the meeting at 11:45

Peter Weir re-joined the meeting at 11:48

Agreed: that the DFP officials will provide follow up information as agreed during the session.

The Committee wished Mr Peover well in his forthcoming retirement and thanked him for his work as DFP Permanent Secretary in supporting the work of the Committee.

6. Performance Against DFP Savings Delivery Plan – Briefing from DFP

The Committee received a briefing on performance against the DFP Savings Delivery Plan from the following departmental official:

- Brigitte Worth, Finance Director, DFP.

The session was recorded by Hansard

Agreed: that the DFP official will provide follow up information as agreed during the session.

7. Correspondence

Members noted the following correspondence:

- Bar Council: Independent Review of Professional Practices;
- Committee for Justice: RUC George Cross Widows' Association - Withdrawal of funding;
- Employers for Childcare: Childcare Payments Bill

Agreed: to forward the correspondence to the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister for information.

- Member of Public: Presbyterian Mutual Society; and
- DFP: Report on Special Advisers employed in 2013/14.

The Committee noted that the following items of routine correspondence were emailed to members on 16 June 2014:

- Online article from Euroobserver on the EU's decision to undertake a corporate tax probe into Ireland and others; and
- Invitation from Pubs of Ulster and MCE Political to the Summer Recess Drinks Reception - 3rd July 2014.

8. Committee Work Programme

Members considered a draft of the Committee work programme.

Agreed: that the Committee work programme will be updated to reflect decisions taken today and is published on the Committee's website.

Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Budget Process

Agreed: to write to the Minister to request an update on his consideration of the draft MoU.

9. Any Other Business

There was no other business

10. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee will be held on Wednesday, 25 June 2014 at 10:00am, Room 30, Parliament Buildings.

The Deputy Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:02

Mr Daithí McKay MLA
Chairperson
Committee for Finance and Personnel
25 June 2014