

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE 2016, THE SENATE CHAMBER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Mr Robin Swann MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Daniel McCrossan MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Robbie Butler MLA
Mr Gordon Dunne MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
Ms Michelle Gildernew MLA
Mr Declan Kearney MLA
Ms Carla Lockhart MLA
Mr Trevor Lunn MLA
Mr Oliver McMullan MLA

In Attendance: Ms Lucia Wilson, Assembly Clerk
Ms Elaine Farrell, Assistant Assembly Clerk
Ms Karen Barry, Clerical Supervisor
Mr Darren Weir, Clerical Officer

2.00 pm The meeting began in open session

1. Apologies

None.

2.02 pm Mr Clarke joined the meeting.

2.03 pm Mr Kearney joined the meeting.

2. Minutes of the meeting 1 June 2016

Agreed: The draft minutes of the meeting on 1 June 2016 were agreed.

3. Matters arising

There were no Matters Arising.

4. Correspondence

Agreed: The Committee noted the correspondence from Catherine O'Dwyer and agreed to forward it to the Justice Committee for a response; and write to Catherine O'Dwyer to advise her of this action.

2.11 pm Ms Lockhart joined the meeting

2.16 p.m. Mr McCrossan joined the meeting.

5. Memorandum of Reply – Clerk's Brief

Noted: The Committee noted the clerk's brief on the Memorandum of Reply.

6. Inquiry into the General Report on the Health and Social Care Sector 2012-13 & 2013-14 Memorandum of Reply

Agreed: The Committee noted the Memorandum of Reply on the Inquiry into the General Report on the Health and Social Care Sector 2012-13 & 2013-14 and agreed to request a 6 month update on the implementation of the recommendations.

7. Inquiry into the Cross Border Broadband Initiative: The Bytel Project; Memorandum of Reply.

Agreed: The Committee noted the Memorandum of Reply Update from the DETI Permanent Secretary and agreed to consider the issue further in October 2016 when a full 12 month update is expected.

2.36 pm Ms Gildernew left the meeting.

8. Inquiry into DRD: The Effectiveness of Public Transport in Northern Ireland; Correspondence received from the Head of the Civil Service

Agreed: The Committee noted the correspondence from the Head of the Civil Service in respect of the Inquiry into DRD: The Effectiveness of Public Transport in Northern Ireland, and agreed to request a 12 month update on all the recommendations made following the Inquiry.

2.39 p.m. The Committee agreed to move into Closed Session.

9. Forward Work Programme September-December 2016

The following Northern Ireland Audit Office officials briefed the Committee on the forthcoming Report List:

Kieran Donnelly
Eddie Bradley
Clare Doran
Kerry Harkin
Denver Lynn
Sean McKay
Tomas Wilkinson

This was followed by a question and answer session.

2.42 pm Ms Lockhart left the meeting
2.45 pm Ms Lockhart rejoined the meeting.
3.11 pm Mr Dunne left the meeting.
3.21 pm Mr Kearney left the meeting.
3.23 pm Mr Dunne rejoined the meeting.
3.23 pm Mr McMullan left the meeting.
3.24 pm Mr Easton left the meeting.
3.25 pm Mr Kearney rejoined the meeting.
3.25 pm Mr Lunn left the meeting.
3.26 pm Mr Lunn rejoined the meeting.
3.28 pm Mr McMullan rejoined the meeting.
3.31 pm Mr Butler left the meeting.
3.38 pm Mr Butler rejoined the meeting.
3.53 pm Mr Easton rejoined the meeting.
3.55 pm Mr Clarke left the meeting.
4.08 pm Ms Gildernew the meeting.
4.13 pm Ms Gildernew rejoined the meeting.
4.15 pm Mr McCrossan left the meeting.
4.16 pm Mr Lunn left the meeting.
4.29 pm Mr Dunne left the meeting.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to seek Legal Advice before deciding on the next NIAO Report Inquiry.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to defer its strategic planning meeting until September.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the Forward Work Programme.

10. Any Other Business

There was no further business to discuss.

11. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Public Accounts Committee will take place on Wednesday 15 June 2016 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

4.34pm The meeting adjourned.

Mr Robin Swann (Chairperson)
Public Accounts Committee