



# Northern Ireland Assembly

## COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Thursday 14 May 2015**  
**Room 29, Parliament Buildings**

- Present: Mr Alex Maskey MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Mickey Brady MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Jim Allister MLA  
Mr Roy Beggs MLA  
Ms Paula Bradley MLA  
Mr Gregory Campbell MLA  
Mr Stewart Dickson MLA  
Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA  
Mr Fra McCann MLA  
Mr Gary Middleton MLA  
Mr Sammy Wilson MLA
- In Attendance: Dr Kevin Pelan (Assembly Clerk)  
Ms Patricia Casey (Assembly Bill Clerk)  
Mrs Ashleigh Mitford (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Stewart Kennedy (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Richard Reid (Clerical Officer)
- Apologies: None

The meeting commenced at 10.06 a.m.

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were noted as above.

## **2. Draft Minutes**

*Agreed:* The draft minutes of the meeting held on 28 and 30 April 2015 were agreed.

## **3. Matters Arising**

The Committee noted copies of legal advice in relation to a press release.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Ad Hoc Committee on the Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsperson Bill.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to consider the Bill and provide any comments to the Clerk for compilation so that it may agree a response at its meeting on 21 May 2015.

## **4. Update on new Housing Multiple Occupation Bill**

The following Departmental officials joined the meeting at 10.10 a.m:

- Mr Stephen Martin      DSD Housing Policy Delivery
- Mr David Grimley      DSD Private Rented Branch
- Mr Ronan Murphy      DSD Private Rented Branch

The Committee noted the Department's briefing paper on the Bill.

The officials briefed the Committee and this was followed by questions from members.

*10.13 a.m.* Dolores Kelly MLA joined the meeting

*10.25 a.m.* Gary Middleton MLA joined the meeting

*10.29 a.m.* Roy Beggs MLA joined the meeting

*Agreed:* The Department will provide further information and respond to the Committee on a number of issues.

The Committee noted the Department's aim to introduce the Bill to the Assembly before Summer Recess.

The representatives left the meeting at 11.29

*The session was recorded by Hansard.*

## **5. Regeneration Bill – Clause by Clause**

The Committee noted a summary table, a revised draft amendment and correspondence from the Minister.

The following officials joined the meeting at 11.30 a.m.:

- Henry McArdle;
- Ian Snowden; and
- Antony McDaid

The officials briefed the Committee on the Minister's response to its proposed amendments.

Members agreed that they needed time to consider the Minister's response and also noted that the Minister wished to give further consideration to one of the issues raised by the Committee.

*11.46 a.m.* Dolores Kelly MLA left the meeting

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to postpone its clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill until Tuesday 19 May 2015.

*This session was recorded by Hansard.*

The officials left the meeting at 11.55 a.m.

*11.57 a.m.* Gregory Campbell MLA left the meeting

## **6. Proposed Subordinate Legislation - The Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes (Automatic Enrolment) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that it is content for the Rule to be made.

## **7. Correspondence**

**7.1** The Committee considered a correspondence memo

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to action the correspondence as outlined on the correspondence memo.

**7.2** The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister for Social Development in relation to its decision to include a fact-finding report in the appendices of its Report on phase 3 of its Inquiry and noted that the Chair would respond to the Minister.

**7.3** The Committee noted correspondence from Apex and Unison.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to publish this correspondence on its website.

- 7.4** The Committee noted correspondence from Imtac regarding DSD guidance on pavement widths and enclosure of cafes.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to request a copy of the guidance from the Department.

## **8. Forward Work Programme**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the Forward Work Programme as amended.

## **9. AOB**

*12.01 p.m.* Sammy Wilson MLA left the meeting

The Committee discussed next steps in relation to the recommendations contained in its Report on Phase 3 of its Inquiry.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that a copy of the Report should be formally issued to those who would have a direct interest in its recommendations.

## **10. Date, time and place of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee for Social Development will take place on 19 May 2015 at 1pm.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12.03p.m.

**Alex Maskey**

**Chairperson, Committee for Social Development**

**21 May 2015**