

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENT  
FINANCIAL REVIEW PANEL AT 10AM ON  
WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2014  
IN ROOM 241 PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**Present:** Pat McCartan, Chairman  
Alan McQuillan

**In attendance:** Tony Logue, Secretary  
Marion Johnson, Admin Support

**1 APOLOGIES**

Dr Etta Campbell

**2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None

**3 MINUTES OF IFRP MEETING OF 26 November 2014**

These were approved without amendment.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

All items on the Agenda to be considered.

**5 PENSIONS UPDATE**

The Panel agreed to confirm in writing to HR that they content to re-open the window for a limited time to permit transfers for those members affected by changes in legislation in 2012.

**ACTION: SECRETARY TO DRAFT AN EMAIL**

**6 EXCEPTIONAL DETERMINATION**

The Chair raised concerns about the triangular relationship between the Panel, the Commission and the Secretariat but was content with the service provided by the Secretary and Legal Services.

The Panel agreed to request Legal advice on the policy options discussed in relation to a new Exceptional Determination.

The Panel agreed to write to the Clerk to the Assembly to confirm the detail of discussions held on Wednesday 26 November 2014.

**ACTION: SECRETARY TO DRAFT LETTERS**

## **7 CONSULTATION ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF ASSEMBLY MEMBERS' STAFF**

Panel agreed to issue Consultation Documents and a Press Release

**ACTION: SECRETARY TO DRAFT LETTERS**

## **8 ISSUES ARISING FROM VISIT TO THE OIREACHTAS**

Mr McCartan provided the Panel with an update on his visit to the Members Services within the Oireachtas.

## **9 CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Committee for Standards & Privileges – Arrange a meeting
- b) Ross Hussey MLA – Issue a response – will be considered as part of the Consultation
- c) David Marshall – Issue a response – views will be taken into consideration – sign post Consultation
- d) IPSA – Request a meeting to discuss areas of mutual interest

**ACTION: SECRETARY TO DRAFT LETTERS**

## **10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Discussions with C&AG – Mr McCartan provided the Panel with an update on his meeting with Kieran Donnelly and Louise Mason. Panel agreed to issue a letter of thanks.

**ACTION: SECRETARY TO DRAFT LETTER**

## **11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 21 January 2014