

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL REVIEW PANEL
AT 10.00AM ON WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2015
IN ROOM 241 PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present: Mr Pat McCartan, Chairperson
Dr Henrietta Campbell
Mr Alan McQuillan

In attendance: Mr Hugh Widdis and Mrs Julie Devlin were in attendance, and Mr J McMillen was present for Agenda Item 7.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies

2. Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the last meeting: 8 September 2015

The Panel agreed the minutes for the meeting held on 8 September 2015 for publication. The Panel also reviewed its table of action points.

4. Preparation of IFRP report to accompany the 2016 Determination

Mr Widdis provided the Panel with a first draft of the report to accompany its 2016 Determination. The panel noted its content.

Agreed: The Panel agreed to comment on the first draft and to request further information from the Director of Finance and to consider the report further at its next meeting.

5. Matters Arising

There are two Matters Arising:

5.1. Consultation on Members' Office Cost Expenditure

The Panel noted a further 9 responses received since its last meeting, in relation to the current consultation.

Agreed: The panel agreed that responses, where those responding had given consent for publication, should be published on the IFRP website.

5.2. Pensions Update

The Panel noted an update from Louise Anderson.

Agreed: The Panel agreed to provide Louise with a list of its immoveable milestones to help with progressing a timeline with Eversheds.

6. Assimilation Exercise for Members' Staff

The Panel noted comments from Mr Mark McAllister, LRA, on its paper relating to the employment of support staff by Members.

Agreed: The Panel agreed to consider further at its next meeting.

7. Preparation for 2016 Determination

The Panel considered and agreed a number of further instructions to the draftsman on its 2016 Determination

8. Correspondence

The Panel noted correspondence between Mr Trevor Reaney, Clerk Chief Executive of the NIAC and the Chairman in relation to travel and OCE.

9. Any Other Business

The Panel noted the Liaison meeting to be held on 7 October at 10.00am in Room 25, Parliament Buildings.

10. Date of next Meeting:

The Panel agreed to hold its next meeting in early October.

The meeting ended at 1.10pm