

DRAFT

Dr Paisley
Mr Napier
Mr Allister
Mr Kane

PRIVILEGES REPORT

As requested at yesterday's meeting of the Privileges Committee, I enclose for your consideration the principal draft paragraphs of the Report on the Gregory Campbell case. Please let me have any comments in the course of today.

1. Your Committee have carefully considered the conduct of Mr Campbell which was the subject of the complaint.
2. In the course of their enquiry they obtained the agreement of Mr Campbell, Mr Robinson MP and Mr Chris Patten MP to a statement of the facts as set out in Appendix 1. Your Committee also received a Memorandum on the law of Parliament bearing on the matter of this complaint from the Clerk to the Assembly (Appendix 2). In examining the precedents cited, your Committee notes the incidents portrayed in connection with the visit of a sub-committee appointed by the Select Committee on Education and Science at Westminster to the University of Essex in 1969 and the outcome of that investigation by the Committee of Privileges of the House of Commons.

3. While your Committee are of the opinion that the conduct referred to at a meeting of the Assembly's Environment Committee could have been construed as to amount to a contempt, in the light of the firm action taken by the Chairman Mr Robinson whose swift handling of events your Committee commends, and in view of the improbability that any Member or witness present would be in the slightest degree influenced by the episode in question, following the immediate withdrawal of Mr Campbell, your Committee recommends that no further action should be taken in the matter.

J A D Kennedy

J A D KENNEDY

27 June 1984