



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

**Committee on Procedures
Room 247
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Nick.Mitford@niassembly.gov.uk**

Dr Katy Orr
Clerk to the Committee
Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee
The Scottish Parliament
The Royal Mile
Edinburgh
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22 September 2020

Dear Katy,

REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MOTIONS

You will recall that on 13 March 2020, I wrote to inform you that the Committee on Procedures was undertaking a review of the current procedures for Legislative Consent Motions and the relating Standing Order (42A) and to seek your Committee's views on a number of issues.

Subsequently, on 6 April 2020, I informed you that, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Committee agreed to postpone its review.

Given that the Northern Ireland Assembly business has recently resumed a more normal routine, the Committee agreed to recommence its review and to write again to seek the views of your Committee on the current procedures for Legislative Consent Motions.

As a reminder, the issues the Committee are keen to consider in its review are:

- a) review the circumstances in which use of a Legislative Consent Motion is considered appropriate;**
- b) review the processes through which Legislative Consent Motions are introduced to the Assembly;**
- c) review the mechanisms by which the Assembly specifically gives, or does not give, its consent;**
- d) review the arrangements for consultation with and consideration and reporting by committees of the proposed legislation and its outworkings;**
- e) to consider the need to introduce a Standing Order/amendments to Standing Orders to address the issues identified within the inquiry.**

Responses should be submitted electronically to committee.procedures@niassembly.gov.uk by 23 October 2020.

Submissions will be published by the Committee unless otherwise indicated.

Any queries should be directed to me at nick.mitford@niassembly.gov.uk or by telephone on 02890 521205.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Mitford'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N' and a long, sweeping tail.

Nick Mitford
Clerk to the Committee on procedures