



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

Committee for Finance

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From: Peter McCallion, Clerk to the Committee for Finance
Date: 8 October 2021
To: Emer Boyle, Clerk to the Committee on Procedures

Review of the LCM Process.

At its meeting of 6 October 2021, the Committee for Finance considered correspondence from the Committee on Procedures in respect of Standing Orders relating to the consideration of memoranda for Legislative Consent Motions.

The Committee agreed that it was content for the Clerk to respond on this matter.

The Committee has considered only 1 LCM in this mandate – relating to the Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Bill. In order to inform its understanding, the Committee sought evidence from stakeholders well in advance of the laying of the relevant memorandum. However, stakeholders were unable (or unwilling) to comment fully on related matters as they were not sighted on the relevant Westminster primary legislation.

The Committee then found that it had only a limited period – 15 working days – to gather evidence on a lengthy and complex Bill; deliberate and then produce a report. That said, the Department indicated that it would not move forward with the LCM until the Committee had reported.

Nonetheless, it appeared that Members felt under considerable time pressure to report on the memorandum for the LCM and would have valued more opportunity to consider the full ramifications of the relevant Westminster legislation.

I should be grateful if you would bring this to the attention of the Committee on Procedures.

Peter McCallion
Clerk to the Committee for Finance