

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 18 MARCH 2014
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 12.34pm.

Present:

The Speaker
Mr S Dickson
Mr G Kelly
Mrs K McKeivitt
Lord Morrow
Mrs S Overend
Ms C Ruane
Mr R Swann
Mr P Weir

In attendance:

Ms L Gordon	Clerk of Business
Dr G McGrath	Director of Clerking and Reporting
Ms N Dunwoody	Clerk Assistant
Mr R Ramsey	Adviser to the Speaker
Ms F Leneghan	PS/Speaker
Mr C McNickle	Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

Principal Deputy Speaker McLaughlin
Junior Minister Bell
Junior Minister McCann
Mr A Rogers **OFMDFM**

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were noted from Mr Pat Ramsey.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 March were **agreed** and signed by the Speaker.

3. **Matters arising**

- 3.1 Members **noted** a copy of a letter from the Speaker to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding the scheduling of the Consideration Stage of the Local Government Bill.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 24 March 2014**

Executive Business

- 4.1 Members **noted** that a motion to approve the draft Police Act 1997 (Criminal Record Certificates: Relevant Matters) (Amendment) Order (NI) 2014 was scheduled for Monday 24 March.
- 4.2 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 25 March.

Committee Business

- 4.3 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business requested for either day.

Private Members' Business

- 4.4 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business previously scheduled for either day.
- 4.5 Junior Minister Bell advised that no further business was expected at this stage.
- 4.6 The draft Order Papers were **agreed**.

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 31 March 2014**

Executive Business

- 5.1 Members **noted** that the following business was scheduled for Monday 31 March:

- Question Time to the Minister for Employment and Learning and to the Minister for Social Development;

- Motion on the Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2014;
- Motion on the Mesothelioma Lump Sum Payments (Conditions and Amounts) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2014.

5.2 Members **noted** that the following business was scheduled for Tuesday 01 April:

- Question Time to the Minister of the Environment and to the Minister of Finance and Personnel;
- Further Consideration Stage of the Local Government Bill;
- Motion to suspend Standing Order 24(1) in respect of the Local Government Bill to allow the Final Stage to take place on Tuesday 8th April.

Committee Business

5.3 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business requested for either day.

Private Members' Business

5.4 Members **agreed** to schedule two Private Members' Motions on Monday 31 March.

5.5 Under the system of allocation, the selections lay with the DUP and the UUP and the following motions were selected:

- 'Animal Cruelty' (Mr P Weir, Mr R Newton, Mr J Wells);
- 'Tackling the Gender Imbalance in the Senior Civil Service' (Mr M McGimpsey, Mrs S Overend).

5.6 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for each motion, with the usual speaking times.

5.7 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 1 April. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the DUP and the following topic was selected:

- 'Future of Northern Regional College provision in Ballymoney' (Mr M Storey).

5.8 Junior Minister Bell advised that all Ministers were available to respond to the motions.

5.9 The provisional Order Papers were **agreed**.

6. **Question Time Rota April 2014 to Summer Recess**

6.1 The Committee **agreed** the rota for Oral Questions from April 2014 until the Summer Recess as presented.

7. **Recess dates 2014/2015**

7.1 The Committee **agreed** the 2014/2015 recess dates.

8. **Any other business**

8.1 There was no other business

9. **Date and Time of next meeting**

9.1 Members **agreed** to meet at approximately 12.30pm on Tuesday 25 March 2014 in Room 106.

The Speaker brought the meeting to a close at 12.39pm

**The Speaker
Chairperson**