

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 09 SEPTEMBER 2014
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 12.50pm.

Present:

The Speaker (Chairperson)
Mr S Dickson
Mr G Kelly
Mrs K McKeivitt
Mrs S Overend
Mr P Ramsey
Ms C Ruane
Mr R Swann
Mr P Weir

In attendance:

Dr A McGarel Dr G McGrath	Clerk of Business Director of Clerking and Reporting
Mr H Widdis Ms N Dunwoody Mr R Ramsey Ms F Leneghan Mr C McNickle	Director of Legal Services Clerk Assistant Adviser to the Speaker PS/Speaker Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

Principal Deputy Speaker McLaughlin
Deputy Speaker Beggs
Mr A Rogers **OFMDFM**

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were noted from Lord Morrow.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 02 September were **agreed** and signed by the Speaker.

3. **Matters arising**

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 15 September**

Public Petition

4.1 Members **agreed** to schedule the presentation of a Public Petition by Mr Mervyn Storey, on 'Elective Home Education', for Monday 15 September.

Assembly Business

4.2 Members **agreed** to nominate Ms Megan Fearon as the Assembly's full representative to the Committee of the Regions and **further agreed** to nominate Mr Fearghal McKinney as the alternative representative.

4.3 Members **noted** that the Northern Ireland Local Government Association has nominated Councillor Trevor Cummings as the full representative and Alderman Arnold Hatch as the alternative representative to the Committee of the Regions.

4.4 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion on Membership for the Committee of the Regions on Monday 15 September.

Executive Business

4.5 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Business previously scheduled for both days.

Committee Business

4.6 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business scheduled for Monday 15 September and Tuesday 16 September.

Private Members' Business

4.7 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business previously scheduled for Monday 15 September.

4.8 Members **noted** that, after last week's meeting, the SDLP had selected a motion on 'Altnagelvin Hospital' to be scheduled on Tuesday 16 September.

4.9 Mr Alan Rogers advised that no further business was expected at this stage and that all Ministers were available to respond.

4.10 The draft Order Papers were **agreed**.

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 22 September 2014**

Executive Business

5.1 Members **noted** that Question Time to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister and to the Minister of the Environment was scheduled for Monday 22 September.

5.2 Members **noted** that Question Time to the Minister of Finance and Personnel and to the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety was scheduled for Tuesday 23 September.

Committee Business

5.3 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business but that there was a possibility of a motion to come from the Committee for Justice.

Private Members' Business

5.4 Members **agreed** to schedule two Private Members' Motions on Monday 22 September and two Private Members' Motions on Tuesday 23 September.

5.5 Under the system of allocation, the selections for Monday 22 September lay with the DUP and UUP and the following motions were selected:

- 'Development Proposals from the Western Education and Library Board' (Lord Morrow and Mrs A Foster);
- 'Replacement of the Current 2011-2015 Budget' (Mr M Nesbitt and Mr D Kennedy).

5.6 Under the system of allocation, the selections for Tuesday 23 September lay with the DUP and Sinn Féin and the following motions were selected:

- 'Persecution of Christians in Iraq and Syria' (Mr J Wells, Mr M Storey and Mr D McIlveen);
- 'Funding for Students Facing Financial Hardship' (Mr P Flanagan, Ms B McGahan and Mr F McCann).

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

5.8 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 23 September. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the DUP and the following topic was selected:

- 'Northern Ireland Environment Agency disposing of waste tyres in East Antrim' (Mr S Wilson).

5.9 Mr Alan Rogers advised that all Ministers were available to respond to the motions.

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

6. **Any other business**

6.1 There was no other business.

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

7.1 Members **agreed** to meet at approximately 12.30pm on Tuesday 16 September 2014 in Room 106.

The Speaker brought the meeting to a close at 12.55pm

**The Acting Chairperson
Ms C Ruane**