

**NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY**  
**BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2014**  
**IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**MINUTES**

*The meeting began at 12.37pm.*

**Present:**

- Ms C Ruane (Acting Chairperson)**
- Mr S Dickson**
- Mr G Kelly**
- Mrs K McKeivitt**
- Lord Morrow**
- Mrs S Overend**
- Mr P Ramsey**
- Mr R Swann**
- Mr P Weir**

**In attendance:**

|                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Dr A McGarel</b>  | <b>Clerk of Business</b>          |
| <b>Mr H Widdis</b>   | <b>Director of Legal Services</b> |
| <b>Ms N Dunwoody</b> | <b>Clerk Assistant</b>            |
| <b>Mr R Ramsey</b>   | <b>Adviser to the Speaker</b>     |
| <b>Ms F Leneghan</b> | <b>PS/Speaker</b>                 |
| <b>Mr C McNickle</b> | <b>Assistant Assembly Clerk</b>   |

**Observers:**

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

**1. Apologies**

1.1 Apologies were noted from The Speaker.

**2. Minutes of previous meeting**

2.1 The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 09 September and Wednesday 15 September were **agreed** and signed by the Acting Chairperson.

3. **Matters arising**

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 22 September**

Executive Business

4.1 Members **noted** that a Ministerial Statement on the North South Ministerial Council meeting in Aquaculture and Marine Sectoral format was rescheduled for Monday 22 September.

4.2 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 23 September.

Committee Business

4.3 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Justice on Monday 22 September to extend the Committee Stage of the Justice Bill to 27 March 2015.

4.4 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business scheduled for Tuesday 23 September.

Private Members' Business

4.5 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business previously scheduled for Monday 22 September.

4.6 Members **noted** that, at the last meeting of the Committee, Sinn Féin selected a motion on 'Funding for Students Facing Financial Hardship' which had been scheduled for Tuesday 23 September and it was **further noted** that Sinn Féin had requested to swap this motion with their motion on 'Welfare Cuts' which had been postponed following the early adjournment on Monday 15 September.

4.7 Junior Minister McCann advised that the Minister for Social Development was available to respond to the motion.

4.8 Members **agreed** to the request.

4.9 Junior Minister McCann advised that no further business was expected at this stage.

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

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 29 September 2014**

Executive Business

5.1 Members **noted** that Question Time to the Minister of Justice and to the Minister for Employment and Learning was scheduled for Monday 29 September.

5.2 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 30 September:

- Question Time to the Minister for Social Development and to the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development;
- Further Consideration Stage of the Legal Aid and Coroners' Courts Bill.

Committee Business

5.3 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business for either day.

Private Members' Business

5.4 Following the postponement of Sinn Féin's motion on 'Funding for Students Facing Financial Hardship', which was previously scheduled for Tuesday 23 September, it was **agreed** that this motion should be rescheduled for Monday 29 September.

5.5 Following the postponement of Sinn Féin's motion on 'Postal Charges', which was previously scheduled for Monday 15 September, it was **agreed** that this motion should be rescheduled for Monday 29 September.

5.6 Members **agreed** to schedule two Private Members' Motions on Tuesday 30 September. Under the system of allocation, the selections lay with the DUP and the Alliance Party and the following motions were selected:

- 'National Crime Agency' (Mr G Campbell and Mr W Irwin);

- 'Investigation of Allegations of Abuse at Kincora Boys' Home' (Mr C Lyttle, Mrs J Cochrane, Mr S Dickson and Mr K McCarthy).
- 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 30 September. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with Sinn Féin and the following topic was selected:
- 'Adequate Sporting Provision in Dungiven' (Mr C Ó hOisín).
- 5.9 Junior Minister McCann 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 23 September 2014 in Room 106.

*The Acting Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 12.43pm*

**The Acting Chairperson  
Mr P Weir**