

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

**TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2014**  
**IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**MINUTES**

*The meeting began at 12.37pm.*

**Present:**

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

**In attendance:**

<b>Dr A McGarel</b>	<b>Clerk of Business</b>
<b>Dr G McGrath</b>	<b>Director of Clerking and Reporting</b>
<b>Ms N Dunwoody</b>	<b>Clerk Assistant</b>
<b>Ms F Leneghan</b>	<b>PS/Speaker</b>
<b>Mr C McNickle</b>	<b>Assistant Assembly Clerk</b>

**Observers:**

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

1. **Apologies**

1.1 Apologies were received Mr Gerry Kelly and Mrs Sandra Overend.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting**

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 November were **agreed** and signed by the Acting Chairperson.

3. **Matters arising**

3.1 Members **noted** a list of current All-Party Groups.

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

Assembly Business

4.1 The Acting Chairperson reminded Members that, following the unsuccessful Election of Speaker on Monday 13 October, the Office of Speaker remained vacant and that Standing Order 6 requires the Assembly to proceed to elect a Speaker as soon as may be.

4.2 Ms Ruane indicated her support to schedule the Election of Speaker on Monday 24 November. However, it was agreed that because party positions had not changed since the last meeting of the Committee, with only Sinn Féin and the SDLP supporting the scheduling of the Election of Speaker on Monday 24 November, a formal proposal was not required on this occasion.

Public Petition

4.3 Members **agreed** to schedule the presentation of a public petition from Ms M McLaughlin, on Monday 24 November, entitled 'Putting Patients First'.

Executive Business

4.4 Members **noted** the following business was scheduled for Monday 24 November:

- Statement from the Minister for Regional Development regarding the North South Ministerial Council Transport Sector (Roads and Transport);
- Statement from the Minister of the Environment regarding the North South Ministerial Council Transport Sector (Road Safety).

4.5 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 25 November and it was **further noted** that

the Consideration Stage of the Reservoirs Bill will not be moved before the Christmas recess.

#### Committee Business

- 4.6 Members **noted** that there was no change to Committee Business previously scheduled for Monday 24 November.
- 4.7 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business scheduled for Tuesday 25 November.

#### Private Members' Business

- 4.8 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business previously scheduled for Monday 24 November.
- 4.9 Members **noted** the possibility that a legal challenge may proceed in relation to the decision regarding the temporary closure of the MS Unit at Dalriada and that, in such circumstances, the motion listed on the draft Order Paper that refers to the decision could potentially be *sub judice*. Mr Swann expressed the view that as no legal proceedings had commenced to date the motion should remain on the Order Paper.
- 4.10 It was **agreed** that should relevant legal proceedings commence, prior to the issue of the Order Paper, Mr Swann would provide an alternative motion for debate.
- 4.11 Junior Minister Bell advised that no further business was expected at this stage.
- 4.12 The draft Order Papers were **agreed**.

#### 5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 1 December 2014**

#### Executive Business

- 5.1 Members **noted** that Question Time to the Minister for Employment and Learning and to the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment was scheduled for Monday 1 December.
- 5.2 Members **noted** the following business was scheduled for Tuesday 2 December:

- Question Time to the Minister of the Environment and to the Minister of Finance and Personnel;
- Final Stage of the Work and Families Bill, Department for Employment and Learning;
- Legislative Consent Motion regarding the Deregulation Bill, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment;
- Motion regarding the Jobseeker's Allowance (Homeless Claimants) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014, Department for Social Development;
- Motion regarding the draft Pollution Prevention and Control (Industrial Emissions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014, Department of the Environment.

### Committee Business

- 5.3 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment on its Review of Electricity Policy Part III, Grid Connections on Monday 1 December.
- 5.4 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with the usual speaking times.
- 5.5 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business for Tuesday 2 December.

### Private Members' Business

- 5.6 Members **agreed** to schedule the Further Consideration Stage of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill (NIA 26/11-15) on Monday 1 December.
- 5.7 Members **agreed** to schedule one Private Members' Motion on Tuesday 2 December.
- 5.8 Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with Sinn Féin and the following motion was selected:
- 'The A6' (Mr C Ó hOisín, Mr S Lynch, Mr D McAleer and Mr R McCartney).
- 5.9 Following a query from Mr Weir, Ms Ruane confirmed her party's preference for a Ministerial response from the Minister for Regional Development.

- 5.10 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with the usual speaking times.
- 5.11 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 02 December. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the DUP and the following topic was selected:
- 'arc21 Incinerator at Mallusk' (Mrs P Cameron).
- 5.12 Junior Minister Bell advised that all Ministers were available to respond to business.
- 5.13 The provisional Order Papers were **agreed**.

6. **Question Time Rota Januray 2015 to March 2015**

- 6.1 The Committee **agreed** the rota for Oral Questions from January 2015 until March 2015 as presented.

7. **Any other business**

- 7.1 There was no other business.

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

- 8.1 Members **agreed** to meet at approximately 12.30pm on Tuesday 25 November 2014 in Room 106.

*The Acting Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 12.44pm*

**Mr Roy Beggs**  
**Deputy Speaker**  
**The Acting Chairperson**