**NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY**

**BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

# TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2015

**IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**MINUTES**

##### The meeting began at 12.35pm.

**Present: The Speaker (Chairperson)**

 **Mr S Dickson**

 **Mr R McCartney**

 **Mrs K McKevitt**

 **Lord Morrow**

 **Mrs S Overend**

 **Mr P Ramsey**

 **Ms C Ruane**

 **Mr R Swann**

 **Mr P Weir**

In attendance: Dr A McGarel Clerk of Business

 Dr G McGrath Director of Clerking and Reporting

**Mr H Widdis Director of Legal Services**

**Ms N Dunwoody Clerk Assistant**

**Mr D Martin Clerk Assistant**

 **Mr R Ramsey Adviser to the Speaker**

**Ms F Leneghan PS/Speaker**

 **Mr C McNickle Assistant Assembly Clerk**

**Observers: Deputy Speaker Beggs**

 **Junior Minister Bell**

 **Mr A Rogers OFMDFM**

1. **Apologies**

* 1. Apologies were noted from Mr Gerry Kelly.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting**

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 03 March were **agreed**.

3. **Matters arising**

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Paper for the plenary meeting on Monday 16 March 2015**

Executive Business

4.1 Members **noted** that the following additional Executive Business was scheduled for Monday 16 March:

* Motion to approve the draft Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (Consequential Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015;
* Motion to approve the draft Health Service Workers (Consequential Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Committee Business

4.2 Members **noted** that there was no change to Committee Business previously scheduled for Monday 16 March.

 Assembly Business

4.3 Members **noted** that the Business Motion to approve the Statutory Rule laid by the Attorney General was now included on the Order Paper for Monday 16 March as agreed at last week’s meeting.

Private Members’ Business

4.4 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members’ Business previously scheduled for Monday 16 March.

4.5 Junior Minister Bell advised that no further business was expected at this stage.

4.6 The draft Order Paper was **agreed**.

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 23 March 2015**

Executive Business

5.1 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Monday 23 March:

* Question Time to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister and to the Minister for Regional Development;
* Motion to affirm the Pneumoconiosis, etc., (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015;
* Motion to approve the Mesothelioma to approve the Lump Sum Payments (Conditions and Amounts) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

5.2 Members further **noted** the possibility of statements on Monday 23 March.

5.3 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 24 March:

* Question Time to the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure and to the Minister of Education;
* Consideration Stage of the Pensions Bill (NIA Bill 42/11-16).

Committee Business

5.4 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Regional Development to extend the Committee Stage of the Road Traffic (Speed Limits) Bill (NIA Bill 30/11-15) for Monday 23 March.

5.5 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Regional Development on its report on its Inquiry into the Benefits of Cycling to the Economy for Monday 23 March.

5.6 Members **agreed** that up to 2 hours should be allocated for the motion, with 15 minutes allocated to move, and 15 minutes to wind.

5.7 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business for Tuesday 24 March.

Private Members’ Business

5.8 Members **agreed** to schedule no Private Members’ Business on Monday 23 March and one Private Members’ Motion on Tuesday 24 March. Under the system of allocation the selection lay with Sinn Féin and the following topic was selected:

* ‘Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics’ (Ms B McGahan, Mr F McCann and Mr P Flanagan).

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

5.10 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 24 March. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the SDLP and the following topic was selected:

* ‘Services at the Causeway Hospital’ (Mr J Dallat).

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

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

6. **Update on statistics on late answers to written questions**

6.1 Members **noted** the most recent figures on late answers to written questions and it was **agreed** to consider the figures at a later date.

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 4.00pm on Monday 16 March 2015 in Room 106 and **noted** that the deadline for motions to be tabled in the Business Office for consideration at that meeting would be 3.30pm on Monday 16 March.

*The Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 12.40pm*

**The Speaker**

**Chairperson**