**NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY**

**BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

# TUESDAY 02 JUNE 2015

**IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**MINUTES**

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

**Present: The Speaker (Chairperson)**

 **Mr S Dickson**

 **Mr G Kelly**

 **Mr R McCartney**

 **Mrs K McKevitt**

 **Lord Morrow**

 **Mrs S Overend**

 **Mr P Weir**

In attendance: Dr A McGarel Clerk of Business

**Ms N Dunwoody Clerk Assistant**

**Mr D Martin Clerk Assistant**

**Mr R Ramsey Adviser to the Speaker**

**Ms F Leneghan PS/Speaker**

**Mr H Widdis Director of Legal and Governance Services**

 **Mr C McNickle Assistant Assembly Clerk**

**Observers: Junior Minister McCann**

 **Deputy Speaker Beggs**

 **Mr A Rogers OFMDFM**

1. **Apologies**

* 1. Apologies were received from Mr Ramsey, Ms Ruane and Mr Swann.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting**

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26 May were **agreed**.

3. **Matters arising**

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 08 June 2015**

Public Petition

4.1 Members **agreed** to schedule the presentation of a public petition by Mr Dominic Bradley on ‘Early Years Funding’ for Monday 08 June.

Executive Business

4.2 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was no longer scheduled for Monday 08 June:

* Motion on the Supply Resolution Main Estimates 2015/16;
* First Stage of the Budget (No.2) Bill 2015.

4.3 Members **noted** that the First Stage of the Legal Complaints and Regulation Bill was scheduled for Monday 08 June, subject to the Speaker’s clearance.

4.4 Members **noted** that the Second Stage of the Budget (No.2) Bill 2015 was no longer scheduled for Tuesday 09 June 2015.

4.5 Members **noted** that the First Stage of the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill was scheduled for Tuesday 09 June, subject to the Speaker’s clearance.

Committee Business

4.6 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Regional Development on the ‘Reduction of the Disability Action and Community Transport Budgets’ for Monday 08 June.

4.7 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with 10 minutes to move, 10 minutes to wind and 5 minutes for all other speakers.

4.8 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Regional Development on the ‘Department for Regional Development's Management of Budgets 2014/15’ for Tuesday 09 June.

4.9 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with 10 minutes to move, 10 minutes to wind and 5 minutes for all other speakers.

Private Members’ Business

4.10 Members **agreed** to schedule the deferred DUP motion on ‘Funding for Musical Instruments’, previously scheduled for 26 May, for Monday 08 June 2015.

4.11 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with 10 minutes to move, 10 minutes to wind and 5 minutes for all other speakers.

4.12 Members **agreed** to schedule the deferred Alliance Party Adjournment Debate on ‘Nursery and Primary School Provision in East and South Belfast’, previously scheduled for 26 May, for Tuesday 09 June.

4.13 The Chairperson reminded Members that, at the meeting of 12 May, Mr Weir sought guidance on the tabling of Adjournment Debates and in particular in relation to the number of names listed on the Order Paper and the potential for the scope of debate to extend beyond more than one constituency. Members **noted** an advice paper from the Clerk on this matter and the Chairperson informed Members of the following Rulings:

* Adjournment topics should be proposed by one Member only;
* They should clearly identify the issue to be debated;
* They must be constituency related but need not necessarily name the constituency;
* The constituency in question should be that of the Member proposing the topic or a neighbouring constituency where the subject matter affects the constituents of the Member;
* The purpose of an adjournment debate is to promote discussion without requiring the Assembly to come to a decision and Members seeking an Assembly decision should table a motion rather than an adjournment topic; and
* The Business Office will determine whether a tabled item would be more suitable as a motion rather than an adjournment topic.

4.14 Following discussion Members **agreed** that the following actions are taken:

* To ask Business Office Guidance to be updated to specify that an adjournment topic may be tabled by one Member only;
* To allow the adjournment topic selected by the Alliance Party to go on the Order Paper for 9th June as worded; and
* To select one Alliance Party Member to sponsor that adjournment topic.

4.15 Members **noted** that there was no Private Members’ Business scheduled for Tuesday 09 June.

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

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

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 15 June 2015**

Executive Business

5.1 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Monday 15 June:

* Question Time to the Minister of Justice and the Minister for Regional Development;
* Motion on the Draft Marine Conservation (Fixed Monetary Penalties) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015;
* Motion on the Draft Planning (Amount of Fixed Penalty) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015;
* Motion on the Social Security (Members of the Reserve Forces) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015;
* Motion on the Jobseeker’s Allowance (Extended Period of Sickness) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

5.2 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 16 June:

* Question Time to the Minister for Social Development and to the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development;
* Second Stage of the Mental Capacity Bill, subject to the Speaker’s clearance;
* Second Stage of the Legal Complaints and Regulation Bill, subject to the necessary consents;
* Further Consideration Stage of the Justice Bill (NIA Bill 37/11-15).

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 15 June and no Private Members’ Business on Tuesday 16 June.

5.5 Under the system of allocation, the selections for Monday 15 June lay with Sinn Féin and the DUP and the following motions were selected:

* ‘BBC Panorama Programme Broadcast 28 May 2015’ (Mr R McCartney, Mr S Lynch and Mr C Hazzard);
* ‘STEM Subjects’ (Mr T Buchanan, Mr D Hilditch and Mr P Weir).

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

5.7 Junior Minister McCann advised that all Ministers were available to respond to the motions.

5.8 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 09 June 2015 in Room 106.

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

**The Speaker**

**Chairperson**