

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 08 SEPTEMBER 2015
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 1.06pm.

Present:

The Speaker (Chairperson)
Mr S Dickson
Mr R McCartney
Mrs K McKeivitt
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
Mr G McGrath	Director of Clerking and Reporting
Ms N Dunwoody	Clerk Assistant
Mr D Martin	Clerk Assistant
Ms T Caul	Legal Services and Governance
Mr R Ramsey	Adviser to the Speaker
Ms F Leneghan	PS/Speaker
Mr G Ervine	Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

Mr J Dallat	Deputy Speaker
Junior Minister McCann	
Junior Minister McIlveen	
Mr A Rogers	OFMDFM

1. Apologies

1.1 No apologies were received.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 01 September were **agreed**.

3. **Matters arising**

- 3.1 The Chairperson informed members that, following the resignation of Mr Michael Copeland, which took effect from 31 August 2015, the number of members adhering to the UUP whip at last week's meeting was twelve rather than thirteen. Members **agreed** that this does not affect the outcome of the vote that took place.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 14 September 2015**

- 4.1 Mr Weir proposed the same motion as the previous week; that the Assembly stands in recess until 05 October 2015 subject to further decision of the Business Committee.
- 4.2 Mr Dickson informed Members that Alliance no longer supported the proposal.
- 4.3 All other party's views on the proposal remained the same so the proposal was **negatived**.

Assembly Business

- 4.4 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the UUP to change Committee Membership on Monday 14 September.
- 4.5 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from Sinn Féin to change Committee Membership on Monday 14 September.

Executive Business

- 4.6 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Monday 14 September.
- 4.7 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 15 September.

Committee Business

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

Private Members' Business

- 4.9 Members **agreed** to schedule the First Stage of the Civil Service (Special Advisers) (Amendment) Bill, sponsored by Mr Jim Allister, on Monday 14 September.
- 4.10 Members **agreed** to schedule the Assembly and Executive Reform (Assembly Opposition) Bill, sponsored by Mr John McCallister, on Monday 14 September.
- 4.11 Members **noted** that following last week's meeting, having brought forward their previous selection on Housing Executive Structures to Tuesday 8 September, Sinn Féin selected the following motion for Monday 14 September:
- Multiple Deprivation Indicators (Mr D McAleer, Mr O McMullan and Mr I Milne)

There was no further change to Private Members' Business previously scheduled for Monday 14 September.

- 4.12 Members **noted** that following last week's meeting UUP selected the following motion for Tuesday 15 September:
- 'Crisis in Waiting Lists' (Mrs J Dobson and Mr M McGimpsey)
- 4.13 Members **noted** that Sinn Féin selected the following adjournment topic for debate for Tuesday 15 September:
- Rural Childcare in Fermanagh / South Tyrone (Ms B McGahan)
- 4.14 Junior Minister McCann advised that no further business was expected at this stage.
- 4.15 The draft Order Papers were **agreed**.

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 21 September 2015**

- 5.1 The Chairperson informed members that the Office of Minister for Regional Development is vacant and at midnight on Tuesday 8 September 2015 the period allowed by Standing Orders for a replacement to be nominated by the party that currently holds the power to nominate, will end.

- 5.2 The Chairperson proposed that the Appointment of Minister for Regional Development is listed on the provisional Order Paper for 21 September.
- 5.3 The majority of Members **agreed** to this proposal, however Mr Weir informed Members that the DUP would reserve their position on this at present.

Executive Business

- 5.4 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Monday 21 September:
- Second Stage of the Housing (Amendment) Bill (NIA Bill 58/11-16)
 - Second Stage of the Houses in Multiple Occupation Bill
 - Question Time to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister and the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment
- 5.5 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 22 September:
- Consideration Stage of the Pensions Scheme Bill (NIA Bill 54/11-16)
 - Question Time to the Minister of the Environment and to the Minister of Finance and Personnel

Committee Business

- 5.6 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business requested for either day.

Private Members' Business

- 5.7 Members **agreed** to schedule the First Stage of the Human Transplantation Bill, sponsored by Mrs J Dobson, on Monday 21 September.
- 5.8 Members **agreed** to schedule the Consideration Stage of the Children's Services Co-operation Bill, sponsored by Mr S Agnew, on Tuesday 22 September.
- 5.9 Members **agreed** to schedule one Private Members' Motion on Monday 21 September and one Private Members' Motion on Tuesday 22 September.
- 5.10 Under the system of allocation, the selection for Monday 21 September lay with DUP and the selection for Tuesday 22 September lay with Alliance. The following motions were selected:

- 'Crisis in Agriculture Industry' (Mr W Irwin, Mr T Buchanan, Mr E Poots and Mr S Anderson)
- 'Humanitarian Crisis' (Mr S Dickson and Ms A Lo)

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

5.12 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 22 September. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the SDLP. The following motion was selected:

- 'Development of Daisy Hill Hospital Emergency Department' (Mr D Bradley)

5.13 Junior Minister McIlveen advised that all Ministers were available to respond to the motions.

5.14 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 1.00pm on Tuesday 15 September 2015 in Room 106.

The Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 1.15pm

The Speaker
Chairperson