

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

**TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2015**  
**IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**MINUTES**

*The meeting began at 1.01pm.*

**Present:**

**The Speaker (Chairperson)**  
**Mr S Dickson**  
**Mrs K McKeivitt**  
**Lord Morrow**  
**Mrs S Overend**  
**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>Mr G McGrath</b>	<b>Director of Clerking and Reporting</b>
<b>Ms N Dunwoody</b>	<b>Clerk Assistant</b>
<b>Mr D Martin</b>	<b>Clerk Assistant</b>
<b>Mr H Widdis</b>	<b>Director of Legal Services and Governance</b>
<b>Mr R Ramsey</b>	<b>Adviser to the Speaker</b>
<b>Ms F Leneghan</b>	<b>PS/Speaker</b>
<b>Miss A Ferguson</b>	<b>Speaker's Office</b>
<b>Mr G Ervine</b>	<b>Assistant Assembly Clerk</b>

**Observers:**

**Junior Minister McCann**  
**Mr A Rogers**                      **OFMDFM**

**1. Apologies**

1.1 No apologies were received.

**2. Minutes of previous meetings**

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 08 September were **agreed**.

2.2 The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10 September 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 21 September 2015**

4.1 Lord Morrow proposed the same motion as that proposed by Mr Weir at the meeting on 10 September; that the Assembly stands in recess until 05 October 2015 subject to further decision of the Business Committee.

4.2 All other parties' views on the proposal remained the same so the proposal was **negatived**.

Assembly Business

4.3 Members **noted** that there was no change to Assembly Business previously scheduled for Monday 21 September and the Speaker reminded Whips to ensure information about nominating officers was up to date.

Executive Business

4.4 Members **noted** a request to schedule two Ministerial Statements from the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure for Monday 21 September.

4.5 Members **noted** that there was no further change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Monday 21 September.

4.6 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 22 September.

4.7 Members **noted** that if a ministerial office is vacant, an item of business listed in that name cannot be moved.

4.8 Members were **content** for a revised Order Paper to be issued that includes a motion to suspend Standing Order 20(1) on Monday, should it be necessary.

Committee Business

4.9 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Health, Social Services and Public Safety to extend the Committee Stage of the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill for Monday 21 September.

### Private Members' Business

- 4.10 Members **noted** that Mr Steven Agnew requested that the Consideration Stage of his Children's Services Co-operation Bill is rescheduled from Tuesday 22 September to Tuesday 29 September.
- 4.11 Ms Ruane proposed that, due to the removal of the Consideration Stage of Mr Steven Agnew's Bill, another Private Members' Motion is scheduled for Tuesday 22 September.
- 4.12 Members **agreed** to this proposal.
- 4.13 Under the system of allocation, the selection for Tuesday 22 September lay with DUP. The DUP indicated that they would not be selecting a motion for debate therefore the next selection fell to Sinn Féin. The following motion was selected:
- 'Absence of a Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety' (Ms M McLaughlin, Mr C Murphy and Ms R McCorley)
- 4.14 Mr Rogers 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 28 September 2015

- 5.1 The Chairperson informed members that the offices of Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment; Health, Social Services and Public Safety; and for Social Development are all vacant and that the period allowed by Standing Orders for a replacement to be nominated by the party that currently holds the power to nominate, will end on Wednesday 16 September.
- 5.2 The Chairperson proposed that the Appointment of Ministers of Enterprise, Trade and Investment; Health, Social Services and Public Safety; and for Social Development is listed on the provisional Order Paper for Monday 28 September.
- 5.3 Members **agreed** to this proposal.

### Executive Business

- 5.4 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Monday 28 September:

- Further Consideration Stage of the Pension Schemes Bill (NIA Bill 54/11-16)
- Motion on Draft Renewables Obligation Closure Order (Northern Ireland) 2015
- Question Time to the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and the Minister of Justice.

5.5 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 29 September:

- Final Stage of the Insolvency (Amendment) Bill (NIA Bill 39/11-16)
- Question Time to the Minister for Regional Development and to the Minister for Social Development.

#### Committee Business

- 5.6 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for the Environment to extend the Committee Stage of the Environmental Better Regulation Bill for Monday 28 September with the wording of the motion to be confirmed at next week's meeting.
- 5.7 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the OFMdFM Committee on its Report into Building a United Community for Monday 28 September.
- 5.8 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure on the Youth Commonwealth Games for Monday 28 September with the wording of the motion to be confirmed at next week's meeting.
- 5.9 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motions, with the usual speaking times.

#### Private Members' Business

- 5.10 Members **agreed** to schedule the Consideration Stage of the Children's Services Co-operation Bill on Tuesday 29 September. The Clerk confirmed that the deadline for amendments would be 9.30am on Wednesday 23 September.
- 5.11 Members **agreed** to schedule one Private Members' Motion on Tuesday 29 September.

5.12 Under the system of allocation, the selection for Tuesday 29 September lay with SDLP. The following motion was selected:

- 'City Deal for the North West' (Mr C Eastwood, Mr P Ramsey and Mr J Dallat)

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

5.14 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 29 September. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the UUP. The following motion was selected:

- 'Removal of the PSNI Tactical Support Group in County Fermanagh' (Mr N Somerville)

5.15 Junior Minister McCann advised that it was not possible to say which Ministers would be available to respond to the motions.

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

## 6. **Correspondence**

6.1 Members **noted** correspondence from the Speaker to all Members regarding a revised deadline for submitting amendments to Bills.

## 7. **Any other business**

7.1 Mr Swann requested that the Business Office provide guidance regarding the process for the nomination of Ministers.

## 8. **Date and time of next meeting**

8.1 Members **agreed** to meet at 1.00pm on Tuesday 22 September 2015 in Room 106.

*The Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 1.12pm*

**The Speaker**  
**Chairperson**