NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 12 JANUARY 2016 IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 1.03pm.

Present:	The Speaker (Chairperson)
	Mr S Dickson
	Mr A Maginness
	Mrs K McKevitt
	Mrs S Overend
	Ms C Ruane
	Mr R Swann
	Mr P Weir

In attendance:	Dr A McGarel Mr P Gill Ms A McKelvey	Clerk of Business Acting Clerk Assistant Legal Services and Governance
	Mr R Ramsey Ms F Leneghan Mr G Ervine	Adviser to the Speaker PS/Speaker Assistant Assembly Clerk
Observers:	Junior Minister McCann	

Junior Minister Pengelly Mr K Kerr OFMDFM

1. Apologies

- 1.1 There were apologies from Mr Gerry Kelly and Lord Morrow.
- 1.2 The Speaker welcomed Mr Maginness to the Business Committee.
- 1.3 The Speaker offered condolences to Ms Ruane on the recent death of her mother.

2. <u>Minutes of previous meetings</u>

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 05 January were **agreed**.
- 3. Matters arising

4. <u>Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week</u> <u>commencing 18 January 2016</u>

Public Petition

4.1 Members **agreed** to schedule the presentation of a Public Petition by Mr Chris Lyttle, on 'Cairn Wood Forest Park', for Tuesday 19 January.

Assembly Business

- 4.2 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the SDLP to appoint an Assembly Commission Member on Monday 18 January.
- 4.3 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the DUP to change Committee Membership on Monday 18 January.

Executive Business

- 4.4 Members **noted** the notification of a Ministerial Statement from the Minister of Education for Monday 18 January.
- 4.5 Members **noted** that there was no further change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Monday 18 January.
- 4.6 Members **noted** a motion from the Minister of Finance and Personnel on the 2016/17 Budget for Tuesday 19 January.
- 4.7 The Clerk drew the Committee's attention to the fact that the motion referred to the Budget document being laid on 15 January which would be after the deadline for amendments to be submitted. The Committee **agreed** to table the motion subject to the Budget document being laid by 13 January and the wording of the motion changed accordingly. The Committee **noted** that while this action was being taken on this occasion to facilitate the backlog of business, it would not be deemed to have set precedent.
- 4.8 Members **agreed** that up to 4 hours should be allocated for the motion, with 45 minutes for the Minister, split between moving and winding. All other speakers will have 7 minutes.
- 4.9 Members **noted** that there was no further change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 19 January.

Committee Business

- 4.10 Members **noted** that there was still no Committee Business scheduled for Monday 18 January.
- 4.11 Members **noted** that there was still no Committee Business scheduled for Tuesday 19 January.

Private Members' Business

- 4.12 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business previously scheduled for Monday 18 January.
- 4.13 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 19 January.
- 4.14 Junior Minister Pengelly 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 25 January 2016

Assembly Business

- 5.1 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion to suspend Standing Orders 10(2) to 10(4) for Monday 25 January.
- 5.2 Members **agreed** to schedule the consideration of business not concluded on Monday 25 January, as the first item of business for Tuesday 26 January.

Executive Business

- 5.3 Members **noted** correspondence from the Minister of Justice and **agreed** to swap the date of his Question Time slot with Environment from Tuesday 26 January to Monday 25 January.
- 5.4 Members **agreed** to write to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister to remind them that departments should allow at least three weeks' notice of required changes to avoid disrupting the ballot process.
- 5.5 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Monday 25 January:
 - Ministerial Statement from the Minister of Justice on Rationalisation of the Court Estate.

- Consideration Stage of the Rates (Amendment) Bill.
- Accelerated Passage Motion: Assembly Members (Reduction of Numbers) Bill.
- Second Stage of the Assembly Members (Reduction of Numbers) Bill.
- Final Stage of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Bill.
- Final Stage of the Water and Sewerage Services Bill.
- Question Time to the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Finance and Personnel.
- 5.6 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 26 January:
 - Consideration of the Shared Education Bill.
 - Further Consideration Stage of the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill.
 - Further Consideration Stage of the Environmental Better Regulation Bill.
 - Further Consideration Stage of the Legal Complaints and Regulation Bill.
 - Question Time to the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and the Minister of the Environment.

Committee Business

- 5.7 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business for Monday 25 January.
- 5.8 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business for Tuesday 26 January.

Private Members' Business

- 5.9 Members **noted** that there was no time to schedule Private Members' Motions on either day.
- 5.10 The provisional Order Papers were **agreed**.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Members **noted** correspondence from the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister following the Speaker's request for an updated list of departmental responsibilities.

6.2 Members **noted** that a response will issue welcoming their commitment to keep the Business Office fully briefed on the new allocation of responsibilities following the reorganisation of Departments, and ask that a list is made available within four weeks of the reorganisation.

7. Date and time of next meeting

7.1 Members **agreed** to meet at 1.00pm on Tuesday 19 January 2016 in Room 106.

The Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 1.15pm

The Speaker Chairperson