

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2016
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 1.10pm.

Present:

The Speaker (Chairperson)
Mr S Dickson
Mr G Kelly
Mr A Maginness
Mrs K McKeivitt
Ms C Ruane
Mr R Swann
Mr P Weir

In attendance:

Dr A McGarel	Clerk of Business
Mr G McGrath	Director of Parliamentary Services
Mr D Martin	Clerk Assistant
Mr P Gill	Clerk Assistant
Mrs A McKelvey	Legal Services and Governance
Mr R Ramsey	Adviser to the Speaker
Ms F Leneghan	PS/Speaker
Mr G Ervine	Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

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

1. Apologies

1.1 There was an apology from Mrs S Overend.

2. Minutes of previous meetings

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16 February 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 29 February 2016**

Executive Business

- 4.1 Members **noted** that since last week two further items of business have been scheduled for Monday 29 February – the Final Stage of the Credit Unions and Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Bill and a motion on the draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016. These items of business had fallen when previously scheduled on 16 February 2016.
- 4.2 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 01 March.

Committee Business

- 4.3 Members **noted** that there was still no Committee Business scheduled for Monday 29 February.
- 4.4 Members **noted** that there was no change to Committee Business scheduled for Tuesday 01 March.

Private Members' Business

- 4.5 Members **agreed** to re-order Private Members' Business on Monday 29 February, to allow the Consideration Stage of the Licensing Bill to be scheduled as the first item, followed by the Final Stage of the Assembly and Executive Reform (Assembly Opposition) Bill.
- 4.6 Members **noted** that it may be necessary to suspend Standing Order 42(1), which requires five working days between Bill stages, if either of the Consideration Stages scheduled for Monday 29 February carry over to Tuesday 01 March. This is due to the Further Consideration Stage of these Bills being provisionally scheduled for Tuesday 08 March.
- 4.7 Members **noted** that there was no further change to Private Members' Business scheduled for Monday 29 February.
- 4.8 Members **noted** that there was still no Private Members' Business scheduled for Tuesday 01 March.
- 4.9 Junior Minister Pengelly advised that no further business was expected at this stage.

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

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 07 March 2016**

Assembly Business

5.1 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion to suspend Standing Orders 10(2) to 10(4) for Monday 07 March.

5.2 Members **agreed** to schedule the consideration of business not concluded on Monday 07 March as the first item of business for Tuesday 08 March.

Executive Business

5.3 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Monday 07 March:

- Further Consideration Stage of the Fisheries Bill.
- Further Consideration Stage of the Health and Personal Social Services (Amendment) Bill.
- Further Consideration Stage of the Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill.
- Further Consideration Stage of the Health and Personal Social Services (Amendment) Bill.
- Further Consideration Stage of the Houses in Multiple Occupation Bill.
- Further Consideration Stage of the Addressing Bullying in Schools Bill.
- Further Consideration Stage of the Mental Capacity Bill.
- Consideration Stage of the Land Acquisition and Compensation (Amendment) Bill;
- Question Time to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister and the Minister of the Environment.

5.4 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 08 March:

- Final Stage of the Rural Needs Bill.
- Final Stage of the Shared Education Bill.
- Motion on the draft Judicial Pensions (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.
- Motion on the draft Violent Offences Prevention Order (Notification Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.

- Motion on the draft Civil Legal Services (Scope) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.
- Motion on the Pensions (2015 Act) (Consequential Amendments) (Units of Additional Pension) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015.
- Motion on the State Pension Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.
- Motion on the draft General Register Office (Fees) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.
- Question Time to the Minister of Finance and Personnel and the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

Committee Business

- 5.5 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business for Monday 07 March.
- 5.6 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Assembly Commission to nominate a Northern Ireland Public Service Ombudsman for Tuesday 08 March.
- 5.7 Members **agreed** that up to 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with 10 minutes to move and wind and 5 minutes for all other speakers.
- 5.8 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Justice on its Report on Justice in the 21st Century for Tuesday 08 March.
- 5.9 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with 10 minutes to move and wind and 5 minutes for all other speakers.
- 5.10 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for the Environment on its Stakeholder Event on River Pollution for Tuesday 08 March.
- 5.11 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with 10 minutes to move and wind and 5 minutes for all other speakers.

Private Members' Business

- 5.12 Members **agreed** to schedule the Further Consideration Stage of the Licensing Bill for Tuesday 08 March.
- 5.13 Members **agreed** to schedule the Further Consideration Stage of the Scrap Metal Dealers Bill for Tuesday 08 March.

- 5.14 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Speaker's Reference Group on Gender-Sensitive Assembly on International Women's Day 2016 and the Assembly Women's Caucus for Tuesday 08 March.
- 5.15 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with 10 minutes to move and wind and 5 minutes for all other speakers.
- 5.16 Members also **agreed** to schedule this motion before Executive Business on Tuesday 08 March, straight after consideration of any business carried over from Monday 07 March.
- 5.17 Members **noted** that there was no time to schedule any further Private Members' Motions on either day.
- 5.18 The provisional Order Papers were **agreed**.

6. **Correspondence**

- 6.1 Members **noted** correspondence from the Committee for the Environment in relation to the scheduling of business, particularly the introduction of Private Members' Bills.
- 6.2 Members **agreed** to issue a response to the Committee for the Environment.

7. **Any other business**

- 7.1 The Speaker **informed** Members that, due to a prior engagement, he would not be present at next week's Business Committee meeting.

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

- 8.1 Members **agreed** to meet at 1.00pm on Tuesday 01 March 2016 in Room 106.

The Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 1.21pm

Caitriona Ruane
Acting Chairperson