

DRAFT
NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2016
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 1.02pm.

Present:

The Speaker (Chairperson)

Mr A Attwood

Mr D Beattie

Mr T Clarke

Mr S Dickson

Mr G Lyons

Mr D McAleer

Mr C McGrath

Ms C Ní Chuilín

Mr R Swann

In attendance:

Dr A McGarel

Dr G McGrath

Mr D Martin

Mr P Gill

Mr S Kelly

Mr R Ramsey

Ms F Leneghan

Mr G Ervine

Clerk of Business

**Director of Parliamentary
Services**

Clerk Assistant

Clerk Assistant

**Legal Services and
Governance**

Adviser to the Speaker

PS/Speaker

Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

Ms C Ruane

Junior Minister Fearon

Junior Minister Ross

Mr A Rogers

Principal Deputy Speaker

The Executive Office

1. Apologies

1.1 There were apologies from Dr S Farry and Mrs S Overend.

2. Minutes of previous meetings

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 June were **agreed**.

3. Matters arising

4. **Opposition Days**

- 4.1 Members were referred to the research paper and advice paper regarding opposition days.
- 4.2 Members **agreed** to discuss this issue further with their respective parties, with a view to making a decision at the first Business Committee meeting in September.
- 4.3 Members **also agreed** to raise any issues or queries in relation to opposition days with the Business Office at least a week in advance of the first Business Committee meeting in September.

5. **Finalisation of the Order Paper for plenary meetings in week commencing 27 June 2016**

Public Petition

- 5.1 Members **agreed** to schedule the presentation of a Public Petition by Ms Kellie Armstrong, on 'Killard House School', for Tuesday 28 June.

Assembly Business

- 5.2 Members **agreed** to schedule a Business motion to nominate Mr Declan McAleer as a full member, and Mr Colin McGrath as an alternate member, on the UK delegation to the Committee of the Regions, for Monday 27 June.

Executive Business

- 5.3 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Monday 27 June.
- 5.4 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 28 June.

Private Members' Business and Opposition Business

- 5.5 Members **noted** that there was still no Private Members' Business scheduled for Monday 27 June.
- 5.6 Members **noted** that there was no change to Opposition Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 28 June.

5.7 Junior Minister Ross advised that no further Executive business was expected at this stage.

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

6. **Any Other Business**

6.1 The Speaker reminded Members that there is a reception to mark the retirement of the Clerk/Chief Executive at 5:00pm today in the Members' Dining Room.

6.2 Mr Swann raised the issue of departments refusing to accept written questions. The Clerk advised that, in accordance with the request made by the previous Committee, a comprehensive list of departmental responsibilities had been provided to the Business Office and suggested that Mr Swann appealed the decisions via the mechanism available.

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

7.1 Members **agreed** to meet at 1:00pm on Tuesday 12 September 2016 in Room 106.

The Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 1.16pm

The Speaker
Chairperson