

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

MONDAY 17 AUGUST 2020
VIA MS TEAMS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 1.09pm.

Present:

The Speaker (Chairperson)
Ms K Armstrong
Ms C Bailey
Mr K Buchanan
Mr R Butler
Ms S Ennis
Mrs D Kelly
Mr C McGrath

In attendance:	Dr A McGarel Mr P Gill Ms L Hogg Dr G McGrath Mr R Ramsey Ms A McKelvey Ms P Devlin Mr M O'Hare	Clerk of Business Clerk Assistant Clerk/Chief Executive Director of Parliamentary Services Adviser to the Speaker Legal Advisor Assistant Assembly Clerk Clerical Supervisor
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1 Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from Gary Middleton, John O'Dowd and Andrew Muir.

2 Finalisation of the Order Paper for Tuesday 18 August

2.1 Members **noted** that the Speaker had received notice under Standing Order 11 from more than 30 Members seeking an earlier sitting of the Assembly to debate the approach taken to awarding AS and A level grades.

2.2 Members **noted** that the Speaker had scheduled a sitting on Tuesday 18 August which would commence at 12 noon.

2.3 Members **noted** that a draft Order Paper and Indicative Timings had been circulated for their consideration.

- 2.4 Members **noted** that they were now required to agree the duration of the debate and the length of speaking times.
- 2.5 Members **agreed** that two and a half hours would be allocated to the debate, with 10 minutes to move, 10 to wind and 5 for all other speakers.
- 2.6 Members **agreed** that the Minister of Education would be allocated 25 minutes to respond to the debate.
- 2.7 Members **noted** that amendments to the motion could be tabled up to 9.30am on the morning of the sitting and **agreed** the usual speaking times of ten minutes to move and five to wind for amendments that were accepted.
- 2.8 Members **agreed** the Order Paper for Tuesday 18 August.
- 2.9 Members **noted** that no indication of whether there would be input from the Committee for Education had yet been given but if there was, the Committee spokesperson would be the second speaker, after the mover of the motion.

3 **Date and time of next meeting**

- 3.1 Members **agreed** that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 2 September, and **noted** that further information would be provided in advance of the meeting.

The Speaker brought the meeting to a close at 1.14pm

The Speaker
Chairperson