



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

Minutes of Proceedings

MONDAY 23 MARCH 2020

Room 29, Parliament Buildings, Belfast

Present: Ms Karen Mullan MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Robbie Butler MLA
Mr William Humphrey MLA
Ms Catherine Kelly MLA
Mr Justin McNulty MLA
Mr Robin Newton MBE MLA

Apologies: Mr Chris Lyttle MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Maurice Bradley MLA
Mr Daniel McCrossan MLA

In Attendance: Mr Peter McCallion (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Trevor Allen (Senior Assistant Clerk)
Mr Ian McAdam (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Ed McCann (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 3:31pm in open session.

The Deputy Chairperson assumed the role of chairperson for the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies were as indicated above.

2. Chairperson's Business

2.1 Legislative Consent Motion

The Chairperson reminded Members that a Legislative Consent Motion on the Westminster Coronavirus Bill was to be debated on Tuesday 24 March 2020.

3. Legislative Consent Motion – Coronavirus Bill – Oral Briefing Session

The following Departmental official joined the meeting at 3:33pm:

Mr Peter Burns, Corporate Services and Governance Directorate,
Department of Education

The official briefed the Committee on the education and childcare aspects of the Coronavirus Bill.

This was followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairperson thanked the official for his attendance.

The official left the meeting at 3:47pm

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content to support the passage of the Legislative Consent Motion in respect of the educational and childcare aspects of the related Westminster Coronavirus Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Deputy Chairperson should speak on behalf of the Committee in the debate on the legislative consent motion.

4. Any Other Business

The Committee considered the agenda for the meeting of 25 March 2020.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to receive the Employers for Childcare briefing scheduled for 25 March 2020 as an emailed written briefing.

Agreed: The Committee considered the implications of continuing to meet as scheduled, and the impact this would have on Departmental and other officials, and agreed to defer future meetings of the Committee unless strictly necessary and as dictated by circumstances.

5. Date, Time and Place of next meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled when appropriate.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51pm.

Mr Chris Lyttle MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Education
22 April 2020