



COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURES

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**WEDNESDAY 26 February 2020
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present:	Ms Carál Ní Chulín MLA (Chairperson) Mrs Rosemary Barton MLA Mr Gerry Carroll MLA Ms Linda Dillon MLA Ms Catherine Kelly MLA Mr Gary Middleton MLA
In attendance:	Nick Mitford (Assembly Clerk) Stewart Kennedy (Assistant Assembly Clerk) Joanne Keenan (Clerical Officer)
Apologies	Mr Thomas Buchanan MLA (Deputy Chairperson) Ms Sinéad Bradley MLA

The meeting commenced in closed session at 2.06pm.

1. Reduction of Committee Members on Committees

The Committee considered legal advice on the proposals to amend Standing Orders in respect of the number of Members on committees.

The Chairperson commenced the meeting in open session at 2.09pm

2. Apologies

As above.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12 February 2020.

4. Matters Arising

Mr Gerry Carroll expressed his opposition to the reduction of Members on committees from 11 to 9.

5. Reduction of Committee Members on Committees

Agreed: The Committee agreed the following motion to amend Standing Orders:

That the standing orders of the Assembly be amended as follows:

- (1) In standing order 49(2)(a), for '11' is substituted '9';
- and
- (2) In standing order 52(2)(a), for '11' is substituted '9'.

6. Correspondence

6.1 The Committee noted a letter from the Speaker regarding his desire to introduce a regular period of time in Plenary for current/topical statements by Members.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the item of correspondence, include 'Members' Statements' as part of the strategic planning session and to subsequently update the Speaker on its decision to include or not include this work stream in its forward work programme.

6.2 The Committee noted an invitation to attend an event in Ulster University 'The Computer says No: how 'welfare' algorithms punish the poor'.

7. Forward Work Programme

The Chairperson reminded members that immediately after the meeting, the Committee will undertake its Strategic Planning session with the aim of prioritising its forward work programme.

8. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson provided the Committee with an overview of the meeting she had with the Speaker in respect of reform agenda.

9. Any other Business

There was no other business.

10. Date, time and place of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Wednesday 11 March 2020 at 2pm in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

2.18pm The Chairperson adjourned the meeting.

Carál Ní Chuilín MLA

Chairperson, Committee on Procedures

11 March 2020