



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee for Employment and Learning

OFFICIAL REPORT (Hansard)

Work and Families Bill: Draft Report

8 October 2014

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY

Committee for Employment and Learning

Work and Families Bill: Draft Report

8 October 2014

Members present for all or part of the proceedings:

Mr Robin Swann (Chairperson)
Mr Thomas Buchanan (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Phil Flanagan
Mr William Irwin
Ms Anna Lo
Mr Fra McCann
Ms Bronwyn McGahan
Mr Pat Ramsey
Ms Claire Sugden

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): I advise members that the Committee has completed its scrutiny of the Bill and formally considered the clauses of the Bill last week. The draft report, including the issues raised by the Committee and stakeholders is in members' packs. In its consideration, the Committee was content with the Bill, as drafted, has not proposed any amendments and supports the Bill. It has, however, made a number of points and issues that are outside the Bill that it wishes the Department to be mindful of when it prepares its regulations and guidance.

I advise members that the purpose of this session is to agree the text of the report. I will proceed through the report section by section, rather than through paragraphs or anything else, and ask members whether they are content with the report.

Are members content with the contents page at page 1 of the report, as drafted?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Are members content with the list of abbreviations at page 2 of the report, as drafted?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Remit, powers and membership is at page 3 and 4 of the report. Are members content with that section of the report, as drafted?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): The executive summary is at pages 5 to 8 of the report. Are members content with that section of the report, as drafted?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): The introduction is at page 9 of the report. Are members content with that section of the report, as drafted?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): The consideration of the Bill is at pages 10 to 15 of the report. Are members content with that section of the report, as drafted?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson: The clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill is at pages 16 to 21 of the report. Are members content with that section of the report, as drafted?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): The consideration of key issues is at pages 22 to 42 of the report. Are members content with that section of the report, as drafted?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Are members content that the extracts of the minutes of proceedings are in appendix 1 to the report?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Are members content that the minutes of evidence are in appendix 2 to the report?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Are members content that the written submissions are in appendix 3 to the report?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Are members content that the list of witnesses is in appendix 4 to the report?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Are members content that the correspondence is in appendix 5 to the report?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): If the Committee is content, I wish to seek agreement for the report to be printed. Are members in agreement for an extract of today's minute to be signed off by me for inclusion in the report, and can I seek your agreement to order the report on the Work and Families Bill (NIA 198/11-16) to be printed? Is the Committee content?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Do members also agree that an electronic copy of the Bill report should be provided to all the organisations that provided evidence to the Committee on the Bill?

Members indicated assent.

The Chairperson (Mr Swann): Members, that concludes our consideration of the Work and Families Bill.