

## COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURES

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**TUESDAY 17 JANUARY 2017  
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present: Mr Gordon Lyons MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Edwin Poots MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Steven Agnew MLA  
Mrs Rosemary Barton MLA  
Mr Chris Lyttle MLA

In attendance: Ciara McKay (Clerk)  
Neil Currie (Assistant Clerk)  
Alex Carter (Clerical Officer)

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that agenda items 1 to 4 should be held in closed session.

**1.16pm** The meeting began in closed session.

**1. Apologies**

There were no apologies.

**2. Draft minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

*Agreed:* Members agreed the draft minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Review of provisions for Standing Orders as set out in the Assembly and Executive Reform (Assembly Opposition) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016**

The Committee gave further consideration to Section 3 and Section 9 of the

Assembly and Executive Reform (Assembly Opposition) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016.

### Section 3 – Timing of formation of the Opposition

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the additional information in the Clerk's briefing paper in relation to Section 3.

### Section 9 – Opposition right to chair Public Accounts Committee

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the additional information in the Clerk's briefing paper in relation to Section 9.

**1.20pm** The meeting moved into public session.

## **5. Standing Order 42A – Legislative Consent Motions**

Further to correspondence from the Speaker in relation to the Standing Orders on Legislative Consent Motions, the Committee considered a briefing paper from the Clerk setting out the practice in the other devolved legislatures.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the information in the Clerk's briefing paper.

## **6. Review of Private Members' Bills**

*Agreed:* The Committee noted the progress that had been made on the Review of Private Members' Bills. The Committee also noted the two submissions that had been received to date as part of the review.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the briefing paper from the Research and Information Service in relation to Private Members' Bills in other legislatures.

## **7. Assembly and Executive Reform (Assembly Opposition) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 : Section 15(3) Annual debate on Executive legislative timetable**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the two written submissions received to date in relation to the Committee's review of Section 15(3) of the Assembly and Executive Reform (Assembly Opposition) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 on an annual debate on the Executive legislative programme.

## **8. Correspondence**

The Committee considered correspondence from the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China inviting the Chairperson to NI's Chinese New Year showcase on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

The Chairperson indicated that he was unable to attend the event. The Deputy Chairperson also indicated that he was unable to attend.

The Clerk was asked to prepare an RSVP letter advising that the Chairperson was unable to attend the event.

**9. Forward Work Programme**

The Chairperson advised Members that this was the last scheduled meeting of the Committee before the dissolution of the Assembly.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the Forward Work Programme.

**10. Any other Business**

*Agreed:* As it was the final meeting of the Committee, Members agreed that the Chairperson should sign off the minutes of today's meeting.

The Chairperson advised Members that any correspondence received by Committee staff will continue to be forwarded to Members until dissolution of the Assembly.

**11. Date, time and place of next meeting**

As this was the final meeting of the Committee before dissolution of the Assembly, there was no need to schedule a further meeting.

**1.26pm** The Chairperson adjourned the meeting.

**Gordon Lyons**

Chairperson, Committee on Procedures

19 January 2017