



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee on Procedures

Minutes of Proceedings

30 June 2021

Meeting Location: Virtual Meeting (Room 29)

Present by Video-Conference:

Ms Carál Ní Chuilín MLA (Chairperson)

Mr Thomas Buchanan MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Mrs Rosemary Barton MLA

Ms Sinéad Bradley MLA

Ms Nicola Brogan MLA

Ms Joanne Bunting MLA

Mr William Humphrey MLA

Apologies:

Mr Gerry Carroll MLA

Ms Linda Dillon MLA

In Attendance by Video-Conference:

Emer Boyle (Committee Clerk)

Stewart Kennedy (Assistant Clerk)

Joanne Keenan (Clerical Officer)



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Mr Trevor Reaney (Independent Parliamentary Consultant)
(Item 4 only)

The meeting commenced at 2.34pm in open session.

The Clerk informed the Committee that Linda Dillon had delegated authority to the Chairperson to vote on her behalf.

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23 June 2021.

3. Matters Arising

The Chairperson reminded the Committee that the motions to amend Standing Orders in respect of Members' Statements were scheduled for 5 July 2021 and encouraged as many Members of the Committee as possible to contribute to the debate.

4. Statement of Entitlements for an Official Opposition - Briefing by Mr Trevor Reaney (Independent Parliamentary Consultant)

Mr Trevor Reaney joined the meeting at 2.10pm.



Northern Ireland Assembly

The Chairperson reminded the Committee that Mr Reaney previously briefed the Committee on his Review of the Statement of Entitlements for an Official Opposition and was returning to further discuss any procedural implications emanating from his review.

The Committee noted a paper from the Clerk.

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Reaney to the meeting.

Ms Joanne Bunting joined the meeting at 2.15pm.

Mr Reaney briefed the Committee on the review which was followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Reaney for his briefing.

Agreed: The Committee agreed for the Clerk to bring a draft response to AERC on the independent report for the Committee's consideration at the first meeting in September 2021.

Mr Reaney left the meeting at 2.40pm.

5. NI (Ministers, Elections and Petition of Concern) Bill - Clerk's paper

The Chairperson informed Members of the NI (Ministers, Elections and Petition of Concern) Bill currently going through Westminster and that there would inevitably be a number of actions for the Committee in relation to Standing Orders, which the Committee would need to action before the end of the Mandate.

The Committee noted a memo from the Clerk which provided further information on the Bill.

The Committee noted that the Clerk would bring a further update on the progress of the Bill and the next steps to an early meeting of the Committee in the Autumn.



Northern Ireland
Assembly

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7. Forward Work Programme

The Committee agreed the draft forward work programme.

8. Chairperson's Business

Agreed: The Committee agreed to delegate authority to the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson in respect of any non-routine/contentious FoI requests should any be received over the summer recess period.

9. Any Other Business

The Chairperson welcomed Ms Joanne Bunting and Mr William Humphrey as Members of the Committee.

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Agreed: It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Wednesday 15 September 2021 at 2.30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 2.45pm.



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Carál Ní Chuilín MLA
Chairperson, Committee on Procedures
15 September 2021