



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee on Procedures

Minutes of Proceedings

23 June 2021

Meeting Location: Virtual Meeting

Present by Video-Conference:

Ms Carál Ní Chuilín MLA (Chairperson)

Ms Sinéad Bradley MLA

Ms Nicola Brogan MLA

Mr Gerry Carroll MLA

Ms Linda Dillon MLA

Apologies:

Mrs Rosemary Barton MLA

Mr Thomas Buchanan MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Ms Joanne Bunting MLA

Mr William Humphrey MLA

In Attendance by Video-Conference:

Emer Boyle (Committee Clerk)

Paul Gill (Clerk Assistant)

Stewart Kennedy (Assistant Clerk)

Joanne Keenan (Clerical Officer)



Northern Ireland
Assembly

The meeting commenced at 2.32pm in closed session.

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 June 2021.

3. Members' Statements – Consideration of draft Standing Orders and draft report

The Committee noted a cover memo from the Clerk and considered draft standing orders regarding Members' Statements.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the draft Standing Orders.

The Committee undertook formal consideration of the draft report as follows:

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Title page, Contents page and Committee Powers and Membership page, as drafted, stand part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that page 6 of the report which forms the 'Introduction' section, as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraphs 1 to 4 of the report, which form the 'Background' section, as drafted, stand part of the report.



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Agreed: The Committee agreed that section 5 at page 8 of the report, which forms the 'Summary of issues raised in the 2020 consultation' section, as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Section 6 at page 9 of the report, which forms the 'Members' Statements Revisited' section, as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed paragraphs 7 to 8 of the report, which forms the 'Whether Provision for Members' Statements should be made in Standing Orders' section, as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraphs 9 to 11 of the report, which form the 'Selection and Management of Members' Statements' section, as drafted, stand part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraphs 12 to 13 of the report, which form the 'Frequency of Statements' section, as drafted, stand part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraphs 14 to 16 of the report, which form the 'Scheduling' section, as drafted, stand part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraphs 17 to 20 of the report, which form the 'Restrictions' section, as drafted, stand part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraphs 21 to 22 of the report, which form the 'Whether Members' Statements may be used to return to a matter on which the Assembly had resolved' section, as drafted, stand part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraph 23 of the report, which form the 'Reference to Members and Political Parties' section, as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraphs 24 to 29 of the report, which form the 'Purpose of Members' Statements' section, as drafted, stand part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Annex A, which is the draft Standing Orders, as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 1, which is entitled 'Minutes of Proceedings', as drafted, stands part of the report.



Northern Ireland Assembly

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 2, which is entitled 'Correspondence from Others', as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 3, which is entitled 'Committee Correspondence', as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 4, which is entitled 'Written Submissions', as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that Appendix 5, which is entitled 'Research Paper', as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that paragraphs 30 to 32 of the report, which form the 'Conclusions' section, as drafted, stand part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that page 5 of the report, which forms the 'Executive Summary' section, as drafted, stands part of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the report be the first Report of the Committee on Procedures in the 2017-22 Mandate.

Agreed: The Committee agreed for the Chairperson to approve the Minutes of Proceedings for today's meeting in order for them to be included in the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to add paragraph numbers to the Introduction and the points set out in the existing paragraph 5, noting that this will have the effect of renumbering the paragraphs throughout the report.

The Committee considered draft motions to amend Standing Orders.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the draft motions and to request 90 minutes for the debate, with 10 minutes to move and 10 minutes to wind.

4. Any Other Business

There was no other business.



Northern Ireland
Assembly

5. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Agreed: The Committee provisionally agreed to receive a briefing from Trevor Reaney regarding his review of the Statement of Entitlements for an Official Opposition. The Committee noted that the report is pending agreement by the Assembly and Executive Review Committee on Tuesday 29 June 2021.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the next meeting would be on Wednesday 30 June 2021 at 2pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 2.44pm.

Carál Ní Chuilín MLA

**Chairperson, Committee on Procedures
30 June 2021**