

**From:** O'Dowd, John [<mailto:john.odowd@mla.niassembly.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 20 October 2020 15:45  
**To:** +Comm Procedures Public Email <[committee.procedures@niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:committee.procedures@niassembly.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** John O'Dowd ([johnodowdupperbann@gmail.com](mailto:johnodowdupperbann@gmail.com)) <[johnodowdupperbann@gmail.com](mailto:johnodowdupperbann@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Proxy Voting

Room 37,  
Parliament Buildings  
Stormont

Linda Dillon MLA  
Chairperson, Committee on Procedures  
Committee on Procedures Room 247  
Parliament Buildings

20<sup>th</sup> October 2020

## **PROXY VOTING**

Linda, a chara,  
Thank you for your letter to me of 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 on the issue of proxy voting.

Given the challenges of recent months and the need for effective social distancing in the Assembly chamber, proxy voting facility has proven to be an effective device in allowing Assembly business to continue in the context of a necessarily limited number of members attending each sitting.

Sinn Féin would be content to consider the use of this facility in the future and as necessary to ensure the effective functioning of the Assembly in fulfilling its democratic mandate.

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John O'Dowd  
Sinn Féin Chief Whip