

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 25 MARCH 2014
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 12.34pm.

Present:

The Speaker
Mr G Kelly
Mr K McCarthy
Lord Morrow
Mr P Ramsey
Ms C Ruane
Mr R Swann
Mr P Weir

In attendance:

Ms L Gordon
Dr G McGrath

Clerk of Business
Director of Clerking and
Reporting

Ms N Dunwoody
Mr R Ramsey
Ms F Leneghan
Mr H Widdis
Mr C McNickle

Clerk Assistant
Adviser to the Speaker
PS/Speaker
Director of Legal Services
Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

Deputy Speaker Beggs
Deputy Speaker Dallat
Junior Minister McCann
Mr A Rogers **OFMDFM**

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were noted from Mr Stewart Dickson and Mrs Sandra Overend.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18 March were **agreed** and signed by the Speaker.

3. **Matters arising**

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 31 March 2014**

Executive Business

4.1 Members **noted** that the following additional business was scheduled for Monday 31 March:

- Ministerial Statement from the Minister for Employment and Learning on the 'Review of Careers in Northern Ireland';
- First Stage of the Legal Aid and Coroners' Courts Bill, subject to the Speaker's clearance.

4.2 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 01 April.

Committee Business

4.3 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business requested for either day.

Private Members' Business

4.4 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business previously scheduled for either day.

4.5 Junior Minister McCann advised that no further business was expected at this stage.

4.6 The draft Order Papers were **agreed**.

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 07 April 2014**

Executive Business

5.1 Members **noted** that the following business was scheduled for Monday 07 April:

- Question Time to the Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety and to the Minister of Justice;
- Ministerial Statement from the Minister of Finance and Personnel on 'Rating issues associated with the Review of Public Administration';
- Final Stage of the Licensing of Pavement Cafés Bill.

5.2 Members **noted** that the following business was scheduled for Tuesday 08 April:

- Question Time to the Minister for Regional Development and to the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment;
- Legislative Consent Motion regarding the Consumer Rights Bill (subject to Committee consideration);
- Second Stage of the Legal Aid and Coroners' Courts Bill (subject to the Bill being introduced on Monday 31 March);
- Final Stage of the Local Government Bill, subject to the Speaker's consent.

Committee Business

5.3 Members **agreed** to schedule the following business for Monday 07 April:

- a motion from the Committee on Procedures to Amend Standing Order 56(1), subject to agreement by the Committee at its meeting on 25 March;
- a motion from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister on its 'Report on Assembly Committees' European Priorities 2014';
- a motion from the Assembly and Executive Review Committee on its 'Report on Review of Petitions of Concern'.

5.4 Members **noted** that, whilst it was expected that the debate would be very short, there would be no time limit to the Committee on Procedures' motion; and **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the other two motions, with the usual speaking times.

5.5 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business requested for Tuesday 8 April.

Private Members' Business

5.6 Mr Ramsey informed Members that the SDLP had tabled a Prayer of Annulment motion regarding the Civil Service Compensation Scheme

(Amendment) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 2014 and requested that it be scheduled for debate on or before 8 April 2014. It was **agreed** that parties required more time to consider the request, and that the matter should be brought back to the next meeting of the Committee. It was also **agreed** that the clerk would prepare an advice paper identifying any associated procedural issues.

5.7 Members **agreed** not to schedule any Private Members' Motions on either day, due to the Committee Business on the Monday and the Executive Business on the Tuesday.

5.8 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 8 April. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with Sinn Féin and the following topic was selected:

- 'Establishment of Minor Injuries Unit at Downe Hospital' (Mr C Hazzard).

5.9 Junior Minister McCann advised that the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety was available to respond to the debate.

6.0 The provisional Order Papers were **agreed**.

7. **Any other business**

7.1 There was no other business

8. **Date and Time of next meeting**

8.1 Members **agreed** to meet at approximately 12.30pm on Tuesday 1 April 2014 in Room 106.

The Speaker brought the meeting to a close at 12.40pm

The Speaker
Chairperson