

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2015
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 1.02pm.

Present:

The Speaker (Chairperson)
Mr A Cochrane-Watson
Mr S Dickson
Mrs S Overend
Mr P Ramsey
Ms C Ruane
Mr P Weir

In attendance:	Dr A McGarel	Clerk of Business
	Mr G McGrath	Director of Clerking and Reporting
	Ms N Dunwoody	Clerk Assistant
	Mr D Martin	Clerk Assistant
	Ms T Caul	Acting Director of Legal Services and Governance
	Mr R Ramsey	Adviser to the Speaker
	Ms F Leneghan	PS/Speaker
	Mr G Ervine	Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

Junior Minister McCann
Mr A Rogers **OFMDFM**

1. Apologies

- 1.1 There were apologies from Mr Gerry Kelly, Mrs Karen McKeivitt, Lord Morrow and Mr Robin Swann.

2. Minutes of previous meetings

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 06 October were **agreed**.

3. Matters arising

- 3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 19 October 2015**

- 4.1 Mr Weir proposed the same motion as that proposed at the meeting on 10 September; that the Assembly stands in recess until the conclusion of all-party talks, subject to further decision of the Business Committee.
- 4.2 All parties' views on the proposal remained the same so the proposal was **negatived**.

Assembly Business

- 4.3 Members **agreed** to defer the appointment of Ministers of Health, Social Services and Public Safety; and for Social Development and Regional Development from Monday 19 October to Monday 02 November.

Executive Business

- 4.4 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Monday 19 October.
- 4.5 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Tuesday 20 October.

Committee Business

- 4.6 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business for Monday 19 October.
- 4.7 Members **noted** that there was no change to Committee Business for Tuesday 20 October.

Private Members' Business

- 4.8 Mr Dickson proposed a revised wording for the Private Members' Motion on the 'Absence of Executive Ministers', scheduled for Monday 19 October.
- 4.9 Members **agreed** to amend the draft Order Paper as proposed.
- 4.10 Members **noted** that there was no further change to Private Members' Business for Monday 19 October.
- 4.11 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business for Tuesday 20 October.

- 4.12 Members **noted** that the First Stage of the Scrap Metal Dealers Bill, sponsored by Mr Roy Beggs, will be scheduled when the necessary consents have been obtained.
- 4.13 Junior Minister McCann advised that no further business was expected at this stage.
- 4.14 The draft Order Papers were **agreed**.

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 02 November 2015**

Assembly Business

- 5.1 Members **agreed** that the Appointment of Ministers of Health, Social Services and Public Safety; and for Social Development and Regional Development is listed on the provisional Order Paper for Monday 02 November.

Public Petition

- 5.2 Members **agreed** to schedule the presentation of a Public Petition by Mr Stewart Dickson, entitled 'We want our Larne Line Timetable back', for Monday 02 November.

Executive Business

- 5.3 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Monday 02 November:

- Question Time to the Minister for Social Development and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.

- 5.4 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 03 November:

- Question Time to the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure and the Minister of Education.

Committee Business

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

Private Members' Business

- 5.6 Members **agreed** to schedule the Final Stage of Mr Steven Agnew's Children's Services Co-operation Bill for Tuesday 03 November.
- 5.7 Members **agreed** to schedule two Private Members' Motions on Monday 02 November and one Private Members' Motion on Tuesday 03 November.
- 5.8 Under the system of allocation, the selections for Monday 02 November lay with DUP and Sinn Féin and the selection for Tuesday 03 November lay with SDLP.
- 5.9 The DUP indicated that they would not be selecting motions for debate. Therefore the selections for Monday 02 November lay with Sinn Féin and SDLP and the selection for Tuesday 03 November lay with UUP.
- 5.10 The following motions were selected:
- 'Marriage Equality' (Mr A Attwood, Mr C Eastwood, Ms C Hanna, Ms C Ruane and Mr D McKay)
 - 'Mental Health' (Mr F McKinney, Mr D Bradley and Mrs D Kelly)
- 5.11 As Sinn Féin had picked an SDLP motion from the No Day Named List the two parties agreed the four Members to be listed on the Order Paper and who will be moving and winding on the debate.
- 5.12 Mrs Overend undertook to inform the Business Office of her party's selection following the meeting.
- 5.13 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with the usual speaking times.
- 5.14 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 03 November. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with SDLP. Mr Ramsey undertook to inform the Business Office of his party's selection following the meeting.
- 5.15 Junior Minister McCann indicated that Ministers were available to respond to the motions.
- 5.16 The provisional Order Papers were **agreed**.

6. Any other business

6.1 There was no other business.

7. **Date and time of next meeting**

7.1 Members **agreed** to meet at 1.00pm on Tuesday 20 October 2015 in Room 106.

The Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 1.13pm

The Speaker
Chairperson