



**COMMITTEE FOR FINANCE**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2020

Room 29, Parliament Buildings, Belfast

Present: Dr Steve Aiken OBE MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Paul Frew MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Jim Allister MLA  
Mr Pat Catney MLA  
Ms Jemma Dolan MLA  
Mr Seán Lynch MLA  
Mr Maolíosa McHugh MLA  
Mr Matthew O'Toole MLA  
Mr Jim Wells MLA

Apologies:

In Attendance: Mr Jim McManus (Assembly Clerk)  
Ms Kate McCullough (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Phil Pateman (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Neil Sedgewick (Clerical Supervisor)  
Ms Heather Graham (Clerical Officer)

*The meeting commenced at 2.06pm in public session.*

**1. Apologies**

As above

A Member declared the following interest:

Mr Jim Allister MLA – Agenda Item 4 – Private Members Legislation: The Functioning of Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill

#### **4. Oral Evidence: Private Members Legislation: The Functioning of Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill**

*The following witness joined the meeting at 2.15pm*

- Mr Jim Allister MLA

The oral evidence session was followed by a question and answer session.

*Agreed:* The witness to provide further information on request.

The oral evidence was reported by Hansard.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Allister for his attendance.

*Mr Jim Allister MLA left the meeting at 3.40pm*

*The Chairperson suspended the meeting at 3.40pm*

*The Chairperson resumed the meeting in public session at 3.45pm*

The Committee were informed that under Standing Order 64A the main committees to which the Functioning of Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill is of concern met to consult and agree to which committee the Bill should be referred at 2nd Stage.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that should the Bill pass 2nd Stage it will be referred to the Committee for Finance as the most appropriate statutory committee as provided for in Standing Order 33(1).

The Committee considered a proposal from Matthew O'Toole MLA.

Proposed:

*“That the Committee for Finance does not wish to form a view on whether it supports the general principles of the Bill.”*

The Committee divided: Ayes 5; Noes 3; Abstain 0.

#### **AYES**

Pat Catney MLA  
Matthew O'Toole MLA  
Jim Wells MLA  
Paul Frew MLA  
Steve Aiken MLA

#### **NOES**

Séan Lynch MLA  
Maolíosa McHugh MLA  
Jemma Dolan MLA

*Agreed:* That the Committee for Finance does not wish to form a view on whether it supports the general principles of the Bill.”

**[Extract]**