



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee for the Economy

Draft Minutes of Proceedings

Wednesday 7 October 2026

Meeting Location: Board Room, Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Centre

Present:

Mr Phillip Brett MLA (Chairperson)

Ms Diane Forsythe MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Mr Declan Kearney MLA

Mr Peter Martin MLA

Ms Sinéad McLaughlin MLA

Mr Mike Nesbitt MLA

Apologies:

Mr Pádraig Delargy MLA

Mr David Honeyford MLA

Ms Kate Nicholl MLA

In Attendance:

Peter McCallion (Assembly Clerk)

Michael Greig (Senior Assistant Assembly Clerk)

Karen O'Hare (Clerical Supervisor)

Aoibheann Baker (Bill Clerk) – Item 1 only

The meeting commenced in closed session at 10:07am.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Chairperson's Business

2.1 AMIC Opening

The Chairperson advised Members that he attended the formal opening of AMIC yesterday in his capacity as Chairperson and encouraged those Members who could stay on to take the tour after the meeting.

4.2 Hospitality Rates Review

The Chairperson advised Members that he had been contacted by representatives of the hospitality who had reportedly been advised of an ongoing rates review process.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to Land and Property Services (LPS_ seeking clarity on the reported rates review and whether it would extend beyond the hospitality sector.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the Economy Committee meeting of 30 September 2026.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. LCM Commercial Payments Bill - Agreement of Report

The Committee considered tabled papers including forwarded correspondence from the Minister for Sport, Tourism, Place and Digital Government, in respect of the Sporting Events Bill and amendments including provisions relating to recurring events.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to accept a written assurance from the Department that the recurring events amendments do not alter the policy content of the Bill.

The Committee considered a draft of the Commercial Payments Bill LCM report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the Background section, as drafted.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to Consideration of the LCM section, as amended so as to include reference to the tabled papers and the Committee's acceptance of Departmental assurances.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the Appendices, as amended in order to include the tabled papers.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the amended report should be published as its 9th report of the mandate.