



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of Proceedings

13 June 2024

Meeting Location: Room 30

Present:

Philip McGuigan MLA (Chairperson)

David Brooks MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Stephen Dunne MLA

Steve Aiken MLA

Declan Kearney MLA

Emma Sheerin MLA

Eóin Tennyson MLA

Present by Video:

Joanne Bunting MLA

Connie Egan MLA

Apologies: None

In Attendance:

Marie Austin (Assembly Clerk)
Sinead Kelly (Senior Assistant Clerk)
Victoria Bourquin (Assistant Clerk)
Marion Johnson (Assistant Clerk)
Oliver Bellew (Assistant Clerk)
Shelley Garner (Clerical Officer)
Suzanne Patton (Clerical Officer)

In Attendance by Video:

Leigh Gibson (Senior Assistant Clerk)
Jessica Jacques (Senior Assistant Clerk)

The meeting commenced at 10.03am in closed session.

1. Apologies

No apologies.

2. Declaration of Members' Interest

No interests were declared.

3. Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 – Agreement of final report

The Committee considered the final draft report on its Inquiry into Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020.

Purpose and Membership

The Committee considered the Purpose and Membership section of the report as drafted.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with the Purpose and Membership section of the report.

Introduction

The Committee considered the Introduction section of the report (paragraphs 1 to 9) as drafted.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with the Introduction section of the report.

Replacement EU Act

The Committee considered the Replacement EU Act section of the report (paragraphs 10 to 14) as drafted.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with the Replacement EU Act section of the report.

The Committee's Decision on Whether to Hold an Inquiry

The Committee considered The Committee's Decision on Whether to Hold an Inquiry section of the report (paragraphs 15 to 19) to as drafted.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with The Committee's Decision on Whether to Hold an Inquiry section of the report.

The Inquiry Process

The Committee considered The Inquiry Process section of the report (paragraphs 20 to 29) as drafted.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with The Inquiry Process section of the report.

The Committee's Conclusions

The Committee considered The Committee's Conclusions section of the report (paragraphs 30 to 35) as drafted.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with The Committee's Conclusions section of the report.

Next Steps

The Committee considered the Next Steps section of the report (paragraph 36) as drafted.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with the Next Steps section of the report.

Appendices

The Committee considered the Appendices section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content that the Appendices be included in the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that any formatting or typographical errors would be corrected by the Secretariat team in advance of the publication of the final report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that that the Report on its Inquiry into Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020, be the Third Report of the Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee to the Assembly.

Eóin Tennyson MLA joined the meeting at 10.07am

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content for the Report on its Inquiry into Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 to be published and issued to all MLAs.

4. Committee Procedures

The Committee considered a response from the Committee on Procedures regarding arrangements for substitute Members and proxy voting and requesting the Committee's views.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to respond requesting that the Committee on Procedures brings forward, at the earliest opportunity, standing orders which provide for both proxy voting and substitute Members for the Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee during Assembly recess periods, and highlighting the unique nature of the Committee's work.

Agreed: Members agreed to move to open session at 10.17am.

The meeting commenced at 10.17am in open session.

5. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2024.

6. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

7. Correspondence

7.1 The Committee noted correspondence from the Head of Communications regarding joining Committee meetings via Zoom and issues arising from sharing links.

7.2 The Committee noted a memo that was circulated to all Members from the Head of Information Technology regarding the survey on the provision of new devices to Members.

8. Chairperson's Business

No business was raised.

9. Any Other Business

No business was raised.

10. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 20th June 2024 at 10:00am in Room 30, Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.18am.

Philip McGuigan, MLA

Chairperson, Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee