



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

Functioning of Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill  
Notice of Amendments tabled on  
17 December 2020 for Further Consideration Stage

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**Long Title**

Leave out from ‘and Article 3’ to ‘section 17’ and insert ‘, repeal the Civil Service Commissioners (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order in Council 2007, repeal the Civil Service Commissioners (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016, amend sections 17 and 27’

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 4, Page 2, Line 28**

Leave out ‘on 31 March 2021’ and insert ‘at the end of the period of three months, beginning with the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent’

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 4, Page 2, Line 30**

Leave out from ‘on’ to ‘2021’ on line 31 and insert ‘at the end of the period of three months, beginning with the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent’

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 7, Page 3, Line 22**

After ‘party’ insert ‘or other Members of the Assembly’

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 8, Page 4, Line 2**

At end insert -

‘(3A) The Minister may determine to waive compliance with subsection (1) if the subject matter is inconsequential.’

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 8, Page 4, Line 6**

After ‘party’ insert ‘or other Members of the Assembly’

*Mr Jim Allister*

**New Clause**

After clause 8 insert -

**‘Use of official systems**

**8A.**—(1) A Minister or special adviser when communicating on official business by electronic means should not use personal accounts or anything other than devices issued by the department, systems used by the department and departmental email addresses.

(2) If out of necessity it is not possible to comply with the requirements of subsection (1) the Minister or (as the case may be) special adviser must within 48 hours, or as soon thereafter as reasonably practicable,

- (a) copy to the departmental system any written material generated during the use of non-departmental devices or systems; and
- (b) make an accurate record on the departmental system of any verbal communications of consequence relating to departmental matters.’

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 10, Page 4, Line 24**

Leave out ‘, civil servant’

*Mr Jim Allister*

**New Clause**

After clause 11 insert -

**‘Ensuring Ministers answer Assembly questions**

**11A.**—(1) Standing orders of the Assembly shall provide with appropriate arrangements that where a Minister fails to answer a written question within the time provided in standing orders the Member of the Assembly who tabled the question shall be entitled to require the question to be answered orally at a time thereafter when the Minister is due to answer questions in the Assembly.

(2) Standing orders of the Assembly shall further provide that such time as is necessary to allow compliance with subsection (1) shall be added to Questions for Oral Answer as the need arises.

(3) No Member of the Assembly other than the Member who tabled the unanswered written question shall be entitled to ask a supplementary question when the question is answered in the oral session.'

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 14, Page 5, Line 26**

Leave out subsection (1)

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 14, Page 5, Line 28**

Leave out 'other'

*Mr Jim Allister*

**Clause 15, Page 5, Line 41**

At end insert -

“close family members” means—

- (a) parent or parent-in-law;
- (b) child;
- (c) brother or sister; and
- (d) spouse or partner of any person set out in paragraphs (b) or (c).'

*Mr Jim Allister*