

PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS**1 - 6**

OPERATIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY**7 - 23**

VOTING**24 - 27**

LEGISLATION**28 - 41**

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS**42 - 43**

COMMITTEES**44 - 59**

GOOD ORDER**60 - 63**

STANDARDS AND PRIVILEGE**64 - 65**

OTHER ORDERS**66 - 75**

INTERPRETATION AND OPERATIONAL ADVICE NOTES

Other Orders

STANDING ORDERS 66 - 75

OTHER ORDERS

- 66. Oath
- 67. Administration of Oath
- 68. Sub Judice
- 69. News Media
- 70. Office of Clerk and Records of the Assembly
- 71. Remuneration and Pensions
- 72. Suspension of Standing Orders
- 73. Language
- 74. Appointments to the Assembly Commission
- 75. Official Report (Hansard)

10. SITTINGS AND ADJOURNMENTS OF THE ASSEMBLY

- (1) The categories of business to be conducted in the Assembly shall consist of the following:
- (a) Assembly Business
 - (b) Executive Committee Business
 - (c) Committee Business
 - (d) Questions
 - (e) Private Members' Business
 - (f) Private Business
 - (g) Adjournment Debates
 - (h) Party Business.
- (2) Subject to the authority of the Business Committee to determine the time for commencement of business in plenary session, the sittings of the Assembly shall be arranged as follows:
- | | |
|---------|------------------------|
| Monday | 12.00 midday – 6.00 pm |
| Tuesday | 10.30 am – 6.00 pm |

The allocation of time for business within these sittings shall be determined by the Business Committee, except that:

- (a) on each Monday on which there is a sitting

- there shall be a period for Questions commencing at 2.30 pm and finishing at 4.00 pm;
- (b) at the end of each sitting up to one hour may be set aside for an Adjournment Debate;
 - (c) any private notice questions shall normally be asked immediately before the Adjournment Debate.
- (3) Where business on the Order Paper has not been disposed of by 6.00 pm on Monday, the Speaker may allow business to continue until 7.00 pm or until the outstanding business is completed, whichever is earlier. Consideration of business on the Order Paper not concluded by 7.00 pm shall be postponed until such a time as the Business Committee determines.
- (4) If at 7.00 pm a division is in progress, or a question is being put and a division or a vote in the chamber results, adjournment of the Assembly shall be deferred until after the declaration of the result of the division or vote in the chamber.
- (5) If Tuesday's business cannot be completed in the allocated time, the sitting may be extended into the evening, into Wednesday, or both.
- (6) Additional sittings may be arranged by the Business Committee according to the exigencies of the Assembly.
- (7) Where statements made under Standing Order 18 impinge upon the time bands specified in this Standing Order the Speaker shall take action under Standing Order 18(5).
- (8) An adjournment of the Assembly shall mean an

adjournment until the next sitting day unless the Assembly, on a motion made by a Member of the Executive Committee after notice, has ordered an adjournment to some other definite date.

- (9) A Session of the Assembly shall be that period from the commencement of business following the Summer Recess until the end of the subsequent Summer Recess. The Business Committee shall determine the dates for recess.

18. STATEMENTS

- (5) Statements shall ordinarily be made outside the time bands specified in Standing Order 10(2) for Questions and Adjournment Debates. However, where a Statement is of such urgency or impact that it impinges upon any of these specified time bands, the Speaker shall make provision under Standing Order 10(5) to schedule appropriate additional time in the same week for Questions and/or an Adjournment Debate unless, by leave, the Assembly determines to dispense with this requirement.
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54. COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRE

- (1) There shall be a Standing Committee of the Assembly to be known as the Committee of the Centre, to examine and report on the following functions carried out in the Office of the First and Deputy First Minister, and on any other related matters determined by the Assembly:
- (a) Economic Policy Unit (other than the Programme of Government);
 - (b) Equality Unit;
 - (c) Civic Forum;
 - (d) European Affairs and International Matters;
 - (e) Community Relations;
 - (f) Public Appointments Policy;
 - (g) Freedom of Information;
 - (h) Victims;
 - (i) Nolan Standards;
 - (j) Public Service Office;
 - (k) Emergency Planning;
 - (l) Women's Issues; and
 - (m) Those functions relating to the Planning Appeals Commission and the Water Appeals Commission transferred to the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister by The Departments (Transfer of Functions) Order (Northern Ireland) 2001.

75. OFFICIAL REPORT (HANSARD)

- (1) A substantially verbatim report of the proceedings at all sittings of the Assembly and Committee meetings that form part of the legislative process or at which evidence that will contribute to a report by a Committee is being taken shall be prepared and published. The report shall be known as the Official Report (Hansard) and shall be a record of the proceedings in the language spoken.
- (2) A revised edition of the Official Report (Hansard) for all Assembly sittings and Committee meetings which form part of the legislative process shall be prepared in bound volume form at such times as the Speaker shall determine. Such bound volumes shall also contain written questions and answers for the period covered.
- (3) Editorial control of the Official Report (Hansard) shall rest ultimately with the Speaker but shall be exercised on his/her behalf by the Editor of Debates.