

Voting

24. CLOSURE OF DEBATE

- (1) After “the question” of a motion has been proposed, any Member who has not already spoken to it, or to any amendment to it which has been proposed, may move that “the question be now decided”; and unless it shall appear to the Speaker that any of the parties present has not had a reasonable opportunity to contribute to the debate or that such motion is otherwise an abuse of these Standing Orders, the question that “the question be now decided” shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.
 - (2) Where a division is held on a question for the closure of debate on an issue the resolution of which requires cross-community support the question shall not be carried unless at least 30 Members have voted in support of it.
 - (3) If a question for the closure of debate has been carried, the Speaker shall put forthwith the question on any amendment already proposed to the motion
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and the question on any other amendment which he/she may then select to be proposed, and shall then put forthwith the question on the motion or (as the case may be) on the motion as amended.

25. VOTING – GENERAL

- (1) Every decision of the Assembly shall be taken by a simple majority of those voting other than a decision:
 - (a) in relation to which a provision of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 or Standing Orders provide otherwise; or
 - (b) on a vote, resolution or Act which:
 - (i) appropriates a sum out of the Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland or increases a sum to be appropriated; or
 - (ii) imposes or increases a tax.Such decisions mentioned in sub-paragraph (b) shall require cross-community support within the meaning of Section 4(5) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.
- (2) The Speaker, or a Deputy Speaker when in the Chair, shall not be entitled to a vote on any matter.
- (3) The Speaker shall judge whether the motion be carried or not by collecting voices or by a show of hands as he/she considers appropriate.
- (4) A vote shall not be taken on any matter if a Quorum is not present.
- (5) If any Member is present within the precincts of the Assembly and is disabled by infirmity from passing through the lobby, his/her name may be communicated by his/her party whip to the Clerks

and Tellers and may be included in the numbers counted (see Standing Order 26).

26. VOTING WHERE THE SPEAKER'S DECISION IS CHALLENGED

- (1) If the opinion of the Speaker as to the decision of a question is challenged he/she shall direct that the lobby be cleared and the division bells shall be sounded.
 - (2) After the lapse of three minutes from this direction he/she shall put the question again and, if his/her opinion is again challenged, he/she may either:
 - (a) call for the nomination of tellers and divide the Assembly in the manner provided below; or
 - (b) if, in his/her opinion the division is unnecessarily claimed, take the vote of the Assembly by calling upon the Members who support and who challenge his/her decision successively to rise in their places and he/she shall thereupon, as he/she thinks fit, either declare the determination of the Assembly or call for the nomination of tellers and divide the Assembly in the manner provided below.
 - (3) When tellers have been nominated, the Speaker shall direct the Assembly to divide, "ayes" to the right and "noes" to the left. The division bells shall be sounded. After the lapse of four minutes from putting the question again he/she shall direct that the doors giving access to the division lobbies be secured. When all Members in the lobby have voted the tellers shall bring the division lists to the Clerk who will announce the result.
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- (4) A Member may vote in a division although he/she did not hear the question put.
- (5) A Member shall not be obliged to vote.
- (6) If the votes in a division are equal the amendment or motion shall not be carried.

27. PETITION OF CONCERN

- (1) A Petition of Concern in respect of any matter shall be in the form of a notice signed by at least 30 Members presented to the Speaker. No vote may be held on a matter which is the subject of a Petition of Concern until at least one day after the Petition of Concern has been presented.
- (2) Other than in exceptional circumstances, a Petition of Concern shall be submitted at least one hour before the vote is due to occur. Where no notice of the vote was signalled or such other conditions apply that delay the presentation of a Petition of Concern the Speaker shall determine whether the Petition is time-barred or not.

Legislation

PUBLIC BILLS

The following extracts from the Northern Ireland Act 1998 are relevant and should be read alongside the Standing Orders on Public Bills which follow them.

Section 9 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

- (1) A Minister in charge of a Bill shall, on or before introduction of it in the Assembly, make a statement to the effect that in his view the Bill would be within the legislative competence of the Assembly.**
- (2) The statement shall be in writing and shall be published in such manner as the Minister making the statement considers appropriate.**

Section 10(2) and (3) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

- (2) Subject to subsection (3) –**
 - (a) the Presiding Officer shall consider a Bill both on its introduction and before the Assembly enters on its final stage; and**

- (b) if he considers that the Bill contains –**

 - (i) any provision which deals with an excepted matter and is ancillary to other provisions (whether in the Bill or previously enacted) dealing with reserved or transferred matters; or**
 - (ii) any provision which deals with a reserved matter,**

he shall refer it to the Secretary of State; and
 - (c) the Assembly shall not proceed with the Bill or, as the case may be, enter on its final stage unless –**

 - (i) the Secretary of State’s consent to the consideration of the Bill by the Assembly is signified; or**
 - (ii) the Assembly is informed that in his opinion the Bill does not contain any such provision as is mentioned in paragraph (b)(i) or (ii).**
- (3) Subsection (2)(b) and (c) shall not apply –**
- (a) where, in the opinion of the Presiding Officer, each provision of the Bill which deals with an excepted or reserved matter is ancillary to other provisions (whether in the Bill or previously enacted) dealing with transferred matters only; or**
 - (b) on the introduction of a Bill, where the Bill has been endorsed with a statement that the Secretary of State has consented to the Assembly considering the Bill.**

28. PUBLIC BILLS: INTRODUCTION AND FIRST STAGE

- (1) A Minister or Member of the Assembly who proposes to introduce a Public Bill shall submit the**
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full text of the Bill to the Speaker not less than seven days (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) before the date proposed for the introduction of the Bill in the Assembly.

- (2) A Member of the Assembly in charge of a Private Member's Bill shall, when submitting the text of the Bill to the Speaker, in accordance with paragraph (1), also submit a statement in writing to the effect that in his/her view the Bill would be within the legislative competence of the Assembly. The statement shall be published with the Bill on its introduction.
- (3) No Bill shall be introduced in the Assembly if the Speaker decides that any provision of it would not be within the legislative competence of the Assembly.
- (4) When the Speaker has signified to the Minister or Member of the Assembly in charge of the Bill that in his/her opinion it may properly be introduced, notice of introduction may be given for any subsequent sitting day.
- (5) On the introduction of a Bill, its title shall be read to the Assembly by the Clerk and this shall constitute the Bill's First Stage; the Bill shall be ordered to be printed and shall be set down in the list of pending future business until a date for its Second Stage is determined.
- (6) The Speaker shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the introduction of a Bill, send a copy of it to the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission.

29. STAGES IN CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC BILLS

Subject to Standing Orders 31(1), 38 and 40(3), the

stages in the Assembly's consideration of a Public Bill shall be as follows:

- (a) Second Stage: a general debate on the Bill, with an opportunity for Members to vote on its general principles.
- (b) Committee Stage: detailed investigation by a Committee, followed by report to the Assembly.
- (c) Consideration Stage: consideration of, and an opportunity for Members to vote on, the details of the Bill, including amendments proposed to the Bill.
- (d) Further Consideration Stage: an opportunity for Members to consider and vote on amendments proposed to the Bill.
- (e) Final Stage: passing or rejection of the Bill, without further amendment.

30. PUBLIC BILLS: SECOND STAGE

- (1) The debate on the motion, "That the Second Stage of the Bill be agreed" shall be confined to the general principles of the Bill.
- (2) Amendments may be proposed to this motion, to leave out the words after "That" and insert words which state a reason for the Assembly not to agree to the Second Stage of the Bill.
- (3) If an amendment proposed in accordance with paragraph (2) of this Standing Order is negatived the Speaker shall forthwith put the question that the Second Stage of the Bill be agreed.

31. PUBLIC BILLS: COMMITTEE STAGE

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), on the Second Stage of a Bill being agreed, the Bill shall stand referred to the

appropriate Statutory Committee, unless the Assembly shall order otherwise.

- (2) Where the First Minister and Deputy First Minister acting jointly are in charge of a Bill, the Bill shall stand referred to the Committee of the Centre unless the Assembly shall order otherwise. The provisions of this Standing Order and of Standing Order 33 shall apply in relation to the Committee of the Centre acting by virtue of this paragraph as they apply in relation to a Statutory Committee.
- (3) A Statutory Committee to which a Bill stands referred under this Standing Order, may, within the period of thirty working days from date of referral (excluding any periods when the Assembly is adjourned for more than three working days), consider and take evidence on the provisions of the Bill, and report its opinion thereon to the Assembly.
- (4) A report made to the Assembly under paragraph (3) may include proposals for amendments to the Bill that may be proposed at Consideration Stage.
- (5) Before the conclusion of the period specified in paragraph (3), a motion may be made in the Assembly by:
 - (a) a Minister; or
 - (b) the Chairperson of the relevant Statutory Committee (or Deputy Chairperson acting in the Chairperson's stead)to extend the period until a date specified in the motion. The question on any such motion may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business.
- (6) On a report being made to the Assembly under

paragraph (3), or on the conclusion of any period specified in this order or extended by the Assembly under this order, the Bill shall be set down on the list of pending future business until a date for its Consideration Stage is determined.

32. PUBLIC BILLS: HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

- (1) For the purpose of obtaining advice as to whether a Bill, draft Bill or proposal for legislation is compatible with human rights (including rights under the European Convention on Human Rights) the Assembly may proceed on a motion made in pursuance of paragraph (2).
- (2) Notice may be given by any Member of a motion “That the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission be asked to advise whether the Bill (or draft Bill or proposal for legislation) is compatible with human rights”.
- (3) In the case of a draft Bill or proposal for legislation, notice of such a motion may be given at any time after the draft Bill or proposal for legislation is published for public consultation.
- (4) In the case of a Bill, notice of such a motion may be given at any time after the Bill’s introduction.
- (5) On a motion being made under paragraph (2) a brief explanatory statement may be made by the Member who proposes the motion and by a Member who opposes it, and the Speaker shall then put the question without further debate.
- (6) Any advice tendered to the Assembly by the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission in response to a

request made in pursuance of paragraph (2) shall be circulated to all Members of the Assembly and published in a manner determined by the Speaker.

33. PUBLIC BILLS: EQUALITY ISSUES

- (1) For the purpose of obtaining advice as to whether a Bill, draft Bill or proposal for legislation is compatible with equality requirements (including rights under the European Convention on Human Rights) the Assembly may proceed on a motion made in pursuance of paragraph (2).
 - (2) Notice may be given by:
 - (a) any member of the Executive Committee, or
 - (b) the Chairman of the appropriate Statutory Committee (or another Member of that Statutory Committee acting on the Chairman's behalf), of a motion "That the Bill (or draft Bill or proposal for legislation) be referred to an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements".
 - (3) On a motion being made under paragraph (2), a brief explanatory statement may be made by the Member who proposes the motion and by a Member who opposes it, and the Speaker shall then put the question without further debate.
 - (4) In the case of a draft Bill or proposal for legislation, notice of such a motion may be given at any time after the draft Bill or proposal for legislation is published for public consultation.
 - (5) In the case of a draft Bill or proposal for legislation, if a motion under paragraph (2) is agreed, an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality
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Requirements shall consider and report only whether the provisions of the draft Bill or proposal are in conformity with the requirements for equality and observance of human rights. The Committee shall report its opinion thereon to the Assembly within the period of thirty working days after the motion is agreed or at a time agreed by the Assembly.

- (6) In the case of a Bill, notice of such a motion may be given at any time after the Bill's introduction.
- (7) Except as provided in paragraph (9) an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements shall consider and report only whether the provisions of the Bill are in conformity with the requirements for equality and observance of human rights. The Committee shall report its opinion thereon to the Assembly within the period of thirty working days after the motion is agreed to or at a time agreed by the Assembly.
- (8) If notice of such a motion is given at the conclusion of the Second Stage of a Bill, the motion shall also specify whether:
 - (a) the Bill is to be referred to an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements instead of the appropriate Statutory Committee, and
 - (b) whether the Bill is to be referred to the appropriate Statutory Committee after the Assembly receives the report of an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements.
- (9) If the Bill is referred to an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements instead of the Statutory Committee, the provisions of Standing

Order 31 shall apply to the consideration of the Bill by an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements.

- (10) If notice of such a motion is given after a Bill has been referred to a Statutory Committee, and before that Committee has reported or the period for reporting has expired, the motion shall also:
- (a) order that the Bill be transferred from the Statutory Committee to an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements, and
 - (b) specify whether an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements shall:
 - (i) consider only and report only whether the provisions of the Bill are in conformity with the requirements for equality and observance of human rights, or
 - (ii) in addition to considering and reporting on those matters, carry out the role of the Statutory Committee in relation to the Bill.
- (11) In the case of a motion specifying that an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements should act as mentioned in paragraph (10)(b)(i), the Bill shall stand referred to the Statutory Committee again when an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements reports to the Assembly.
- (12) In the case of a motion specifying that an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements should act as mentioned in paragraph (10)(b)(ii), the Committee Stage of the Bill shall be complete when an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements reports to the Assembly.

- (13) If such a motion is agreed after the appropriate Statutory Committee has reported, or the time for reporting has expired, the Consideration Stage of the Bill shall not begin until an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements reports to the Assembly.
- (14) If such a motion is agreed after the Consideration Stage of the Bill has begun but before that stage has been completed, the Consideration Stage shall be adjourned until an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements reports to the Assembly.
- (15) On resuming an adjourned Consideration Stage, the Assembly may, instead of considering the remaining clauses and schedules in the order in which they stand in the Bill, on a motion moved by the Member in charge of the Bill decide to consider them in a different order, and to consider again and amend, provisions of the Bill which have already been ordered to stand part of the Bill, and to consider new clauses and schedules even if the time for considering them has passed.
- (16) If such a motion is agreed after the end of the Consideration Stage of a Bill, no date shall be determined for the Further Consideration Stage of the Bill until an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements reports to the Assembly.
- (17) If such a motion is agreed after the Further Consideration Stage of the Bill has begun but before that stage has been completed, the Further Consideration Stage shall be adjourned until an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements reports to the Assembly.

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- (18) On resuming an adjourned Further Consideration Stage, the Assembly may, instead of considering the remaining amendments in the order in which the relevant clauses or schedules stand in the Bill, on a motion moved by the Member in charge of the Bill decide to consider them in a different order, and to consider again and amend, provisions of the Bill which have already been agreed, and to consider new clauses and schedules even if the time for considering them has passed.
- (19) If such a motion is agreed after the end of the Further Consideration Stage of a Bill, no date shall be determined for the Final Stage of the Bill until an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements reports to the Assembly.
- (20) A decision by the Assembly to agree to a report by an Ad Hoc Committee on Conformity with Equality Requirements under paragraph (7) shall require cross-community support within the meaning of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

34. PUBLIC BILLS: CONSIDERATION STAGE

- (1) Any amendments proposed to be made to a Bill at Consideration Stage shall be deposited with the Clerk in time for inclusion on a Notice Paper circulated on a day before the day appointed for the Consideration Stage. Amendments shall be arranged in the order in which the Bill is to be considered. Amendments may be moved, at the discretion of the Speaker, in very exceptional circumstances without such notice.
- (2) On consideration of a Bill, the clauses and

schedules shall be considered in the order in which they stand in the Bill unless the Assembly, on a motion moved after notice by the Member in charge of the Bill, decides otherwise. The question shall be put in respect of each clause and schedule, that the clause or schedule (or, as the case may be, the clause or schedule, as amended) stand part of the Bill.

- (3) The preamble and the long title shall stand postponed until after the consideration of the clauses and of any schedules.
- (4) Members may speak more than once in debate during the Consideration Stage. At the completion of the Consideration Stage, the Bill shall stand referred to the Speaker.

35. PUBLIC BILLS: FURTHER CONSIDERATION STAGE

- (1) Any amendments proposed to be made to a Bill at Further Consideration Stage shall be deposited with the Clerk in time for inclusion on a Notice Paper circulated on a day before the day appointed for the Further Consideration Stage, and shall be arranged in the order in which the Bill is to be considered; provided, however, that at the discretion of the Speaker, amendments may be moved in very exceptional circumstances without such notice.
- (2) During proceedings at Further Consideration Stage, debate and vote shall be confined to those amendments which have been selected. The amendments shall be considered in the order in which the relevant clauses or schedules stand in the Bill.
- (3) Any amendments selected which relate to the long

title shall be considered after those relating to the clauses and schedules of the Bill.

- (4) Members may speak more than once in debate during the Further Consideration Stage.
- (5) At the conclusion of the debate on the Further Consideration Stage the Bill shall stand referred to the Speaker.

36. PUBLIC BILLS: AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed to a Bill shall be relevant to the provisions of the Bill and shall not be in conflict with the principle of the Bill as agreed to at Second Stage.

37. PUBLIC BILLS: FINAL STAGE

- (1) After the completion of the Further Consideration Stage of a Bill, the Bill shall be set down on the list of pending future business until a date for its Final Stage is determined.
- (2) No date may be determined for the Final Stage of a Bill until:
 - (a) the Speaker has considered the Bill in accordance with Section 10 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and signified to the Minister or Member of the Assembly in charge of the Bill that in his/her opinion it may properly proceed to its Final Stage; or
 - (b) if the Bill is referred to the Secretary of State by the Speaker under Section 10(2)(b) of that Act, the Secretary of State has signified his/her consent, or informed the Assembly of his/her opinion, under Section 10(2)(c) of that Act.

- (3) Debate at the Final Stage shall be on the motion “That the Bill do now pass” and shall be confined to the content of the Bill. No amendments may be made to the Bill at the Final Stage.

38. PUBLIC BILLS: RECONSIDERATION

- (1) Notwithstanding that a Bill has been passed under Standing Order 37 or approved under paragraph (3) of this order, it shall be set down in the list of pending future business as awaiting reconsideration if (but only if):
- (a) the Judicial Committee decide that any provision of the Bill is not within the legislative competence of the Assembly;
 - (b) a reference to the Judicial Committee made by the Attorney General for Northern Ireland in relation to a provision of the Bill under Section 11 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 has been withdrawn following a request for withdrawal under Section 12 of that Act;
 - (c) a decision is made by the Secretary of State under Section 14(4) or (5) of that Act not to submit the Bill for Royal Assent; or
 - (d) a motion under Section 15(1) of that Act that the Bill shall not be submitted for Royal Assent has been passed by either House of Parliament.
- (2) During proceedings on reconsideration of a Bill, the Assembly shall consider only amendments proposed to be made to the Bill; and the provisions of Standing Order 34(1) shall apply to such amendments.
- (3) Where a Bill has been amended during proceedings on reconsideration, the question, that the Bill, as
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amended, be approved shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.

39. PUBLIC BILLS: EXPLANATORY AND FINANCIAL MEMORANDA

Public Bills on introduction shall be accompanied, inter alia, by an explanatory and financial memorandum detailing as appropriate:

- (a) the nature of the issue the Bill is intended to address;
- (b) the consultative process undertaken;
- (c) the main options considered;
- (d) the option selected and why;
- (e) the cost implications of the proposal/s.

40. PUBLIC BILLS: SPECIAL SCHEDULING REQUIREMENTS

- (1) There shall be a minimum interval of five working days between each stage of a Bill, save in the following cases:
 - (a) between Second Stage and Committee Stage; and
 - (b) where a Bill is subject to the accelerated passage procedure in accordance with paragraph (2) or (4).
- (2) Where on or before the Second Stage of a Budget Bill the Chairperson of the Committee for Finance and Personnel (or another Member of that Committee acting on his/ her behalf) confirms to the Assembly that the Committee is satisfied that there has been appropriate consultation with it on the public expenditure proposals contained in the Bill, the Bill shall proceed under the accelerated passage procedure which shall exclude any Committee Stage.

- (3) Where, exceptionally, a Bill (other than a Budget Bill) is thought to require accelerated passage, which shall exclude any Committee Stage, the Member in charge of the Bill shall, before introduction of the Bill in the Assembly, explain to the appropriate Committee:
- (a) the reason or reasons for accelerated passage;
 - (b) the consequences of accelerated passage not being granted; and, if appropriate,
 - (c) any steps he/she has taken to minimise the future use of the accelerated passage procedure.
- (4) Before Second Stage the Member in charge of the Bill shall move a motion "That the Bill proceed under the accelerated passage procedure".

In moving the motion the Member shall explain to the Assembly:

- (a) the reason or reasons for accelerated passage;
- (b) the consequences of accelerated passage not being granted; and, if appropriate,
- (c) any steps he/she has taken to minimise the future use of the accelerated passage procedure.

A motion under this Standing Order shall require cross-community support within the meaning of Section 4(5) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

- (5) No Bill shall pass all its required stages in the Assembly in less than ten days.
- (6) Where a Bill has not completed its passage by the end of an Assembly session it shall be carried forth and its passage continued into the next session.
- (7) A Bill shall not be carried forth if the Assembly stands dissolved.

41. STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

- (1) Every Statutory Rule or draft Statutory Rule of Northern Ireland which is laid before the Assembly and upon which proceedings may be taken in pursuance of existing primary legislation lying within the purview of the Assembly at the time, shall stand referred to an appropriate Committee which may:
 - (a) deal with the matter itself; or
 - (b) delegate to the Examiner of Statutory Rules any of its functions in relation to the matter as it sees fit.

 - (2) In this Standing Order “Committee” means:
 - (a) a Statutory Committee; and
 - (b) in the case of a Statutory Rule or draft Statutory Rule which has been made or is to be made by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister acting jointly, or by the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister, the Committee of the Centre.

 - (3) The decision of the Business Committee as to which is the appropriate Committee for the purposes of paragraph (1) shall be final.

 - (4) The Committee shall have powers to require the Minister responsible for any Northern Ireland Government department concerned to submit a memorandum explaining any Rule which may be under its consideration or allow a Minister to depute a representative to appear before it as a witness for the purposes of explaining any such Rule. The Committee shall, taking such advice as it requires, consider each Statutory Rule which it deals with under sub-paragraph (1)(a) on a motion. ‘That the Committee has considered the Statutory Rule’ and
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the Committee shall thereupon report the Statutory Rule to the next Assembly Sitting without any further question being put.

- (5) The Committee shall inter alia consider and report whether the Rule examined:
 - (a) imposes a charge on the public revenues;
 - (b) is made in pursuance of any enactment excluding it from challenge in the courts;
 - (c) purports to have retrospective effect where the parent statute confers no such express authority;
 - (d) appears to have been unjustifiably delayed;
 - (e) is apparently not intra vires or appears to make some unusual or unexpected use of the powers conferred by the statute under which it is made;
 - (f) calls for elucidation;
 - (g) appears to have defects in its drafting or on any other ground which does not impinge on its merits or on the policy behind it.

 - (6) There shall be an officer of the Assembly to be known as the Examiner of Statutory Rules who shall:
 - (a) carry out any functions delegated to him/her by Committees under this Standing Order; and
 - (b) if required to do so make such Report to the Assembly as the Committee may make under paragraph (5).

 - (7) Where any Statutory Rule is subject to negative resolution within the meaning of Section 41 of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954, the Committee [or the Examiner of Statutory Rules, as the case may be] shall use best endeavours to consider and report on that Rule before the expiry of the statutory period specified by that Section.
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- (8) Where any Statutory Rule shall cease to have effect after a specified period unless approved by resolution of the Assembly, the Committee [or the Examiner of Statutory Rules, as the case may be] shall use best endeavours to consider and report on that Rule before the expiry of that period.
 - (9) Where any Statutory Rule must be laid in draft for a specified period before being made, the Committee [or the Examiner of Statutory Rules, as the case may be], shall use best endeavours to consider and report on that Rule before the expiry of that period.
 - (10) Where any Statutory Rule is subject to affirmative resolution within the meaning of Section 41 of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954, or is to be laid in draft before the Assembly for approval by resolution before being made, the Committee [or the Examiner of Statutory Rules, as the case may be], shall use best endeavours to consider and report on that Rule before the resolution concerned is moved.
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