

## STANDING ORDER 6 - Organisation of Business

### Periodic Timetable

- 6.1 From time to time, the Business Committee must table a motion proposing, for periods of not less than six months:
- (i) outline timetables of plenary meetings;
  - (ii) times available for committee meetings;
  - (iii) meetings of political groups;
  - (iv) recesses
  - (v) dates for questions for oral answer by the First Minister, Welsh Ministers, the Counsel General and the Assembly Commission .
- 6.2 Motions under Standing Order 6.1 must be framed having regard to the family and constituency or electoral region responsibilities of Members, and their likely travel arrangements; and should normally seek to avoid timetabling business before 9.00am or after 5.30pm on any working day.

### Weekly Business

- 6.3 In each week that the Assembly meets in plenary, the Minister with responsibility for government business must:
- (i) make a statement about the organisation of government business in plenary; and
  - (ii) at the same time, announce non-government business in plenary,
- for the first week after the week when the statement is made, together with the provisional organisation of business for the two subsequent weeks.
- 6.4 The organisation of government business in plenary must be determined by the government.
- 6.5 The organisation of non-government business in plenary must be determined by the Business Committee, subject to Standing Order 10.5(iv).
- 6.6 The organisation of Assembly business in plenary must be determined by the Business Committee.

- 6.7 Every item of business referred to in the statement and announcement must have an allotted time assigned to it.
- 6.8 An item of business referred to in the statement or announcement (other than any item of business when amendments to legislation are to be considered) may be designated (by the government if it is government business or by the Business Committee if it is non-government business) as an item of business where any vote necessary to dispose of the business is to be deferred to a specified time later on the same day.
- 6.9 The Presiding Officer may permit questions to be asked of the Minister with responsibility for government business for not longer than 30 minutes after the statement has been made, but no vote may be taken on the statement or announcement.
- 6.10 The statement and announcement constitutes the agreed timetable for Assembly business in plenary for the first week after the week when the statement and announcement were made.

#### Business Notice

- 6.11 As soon as possible after each plenary meeting, the Clerk must publish a business notice which must include the notice of plenary and committee agendas, together with information about any of the following which have been tabled or laid before the Assembly since the last business notice:
- (i) oral and written questions;
  - (ii) motions and amendments to motions;
  - (iii) proposed and draft Orders in Council;
  - (iv) proposed Measures and amendments to proposed Measures;
  - (v) subordinate legislation or draft subordinate legislation; and
  - (vi) any documents laid before the Assembly.