
From: ps.ministers@ofmdfmi.gov.uk
Sent: 18 September 2015 11:01
To: PSFM PSdFM
Cc: Jackson, Neill (OFMDFM); King, Brenda; Reid, Graeme (ofmdfm); HOCS; Bullick, Richard; Pengelly, Emma; Baxter, Pamela; McKibbin, Gail; Grimason, Stephen; Wright, Johnny; Sharkey, Charlene; Harrison, Julie (FM Private Office); Johnston, Heather; Dickson, Anne; Reynor, Stephanie; Kerr, Colette; Johnston, Timothy; Edgar, Leona; Hylands, Brian; Gardner, Jeremy; Coleman, Roisin; Monaghan, Kathy; Wallwin, Judith; McLaughlin, Mark (OFMDFM); Savage, Mandy; McCabe, Aine; HOCS; McCann, Jennifer; Parkhill, Laura; McNabb, Chris; Heaney, Conor; Brimstone, Stephen; O'Connor, Ciaran
Subject: COR-1062-2015 : ***COR TO NOTE ** Moving of DETI Business in Plenary
Attachments: COR 1062-15.pdf

Raised By: Speaker NI Assembly
Reference: COR-1062-2015

Subject: COR-1062-2015 : ***COR TO NOTE ** Moving of DETI Business in Plenary

Referred To: PSFMPSDFM MAILBOX
Date referred: 18/09/2015

ACTION REQUIRED

*** COR TO NOTE - for information only ***

For further information etc. contact:
Elizabeth Cromie
Central Correspondence Unit
88232

Copied To For Information:
Jackson, Neill (OFMDFM), King, Brenda, Reid, Graeme (ofmdfm), HOCS, CC CORR

Shanks, Mark

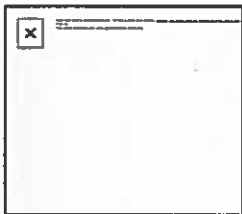
From: Leneghan, Frances [frances.leneghan@niassembly.gov.uk]
Sent: 17 September 2015 15:41
To: Private Office DFP; PS Ministers
Cc: Reaney, Trevor; McGrath, Gareth; Dunwoody, Nuala; McGarel, Alex; Ramsey, Robin; Ferguson, Allison (Speakers Office)
Subject: Moving of DETI Business in Plenary
Attachments: scan0024.pdf

Glynis

Please find attached a letter from the Speaker for the attention of the DFP Minister, hard copy is in the post.

Best regards

Frances



FRANCES LENEGHAN
Private Secretary To Speaker
Office of the Speaker

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The Speaker



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Mrs Arlene Foster MLA
Minister of Finance and Personnel
2nd Floor
Clare House
303 Airport Road West
Belfast
BT3 9ED

17 September 2015

Dear Arlene,

Shortly after he had affirmed the Pledge of Office to take up the office of Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Investment on 16 September 2015, I received correspondence from Jonathan Bell MLA notifying me that he wished you to move three items of plenary business, on his behalf, in the future. However, less than two hours later I received notification of Minister Bell's resignation. While the wider aspects of how Departments are affected by resignations are not of my concern, the management of plenary business is a procedural question for me.

Earlier this week, two items of DETI business fell in the Chamber and I notified the House that "as the ministerial office is vacant, the item of business cannot be moved". I remain of that view for the business which was the subject of the then Minister's correspondence on 16 September 2015.

I am therefore ruling that Mr Bell's requests dated 16 September that you move items of business on his behalf, for the purposes of Assembly proceedings, lapsed once he resigned. For clarity you may not move the business requested by Mr Bell.

This business cannot be moved during a vacancy. It could only be moved by another Minister if an existing Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Investment had scheduled it and notified me of a reason why they were unavoidably unavailable to attend plenary. The House and I would expect such a reason to be in keeping with the longstanding courtesies and conventions of the House which recognise the priority which should be given to plenary sessions given their role in scrutinising Ministers and holding them to account.

Given their responsibilities for Executive Business I am copying this letter to OFMDFM.

Yours sincerely,

MITCHEL MCLAUGHLIN MLA

"Respect - A First Step"