

THE NEW NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

14 SEPTEMBER 1998

10.30 am : The Initial Presiding Officer, The Lord Alderdice of Knock,
will take the chair

1. Personal prayer or meditation.
2. Presiding Officer's business.
3. Signing of the Roll of Members by those who have not yet done so.
4. The Initial Presiding Officer:-

That this Assembly should proceed to establish a "Shadow" Commission to assist during the transitional period in making preparations for the effective functioning of the Assembly - the membership and functions of the "Shadow" Commission being the same as those set out for the Commission in the Northern Ireland Bill.

Terms of Reference: The Shadow Commission will consider matters relevant to providing the Assembly with the property, staff and services required for the Assembly's purposes.

Composition: Initial Presiding Officer
Rev Robert Coulter
Mr John Fee
Mr Peter Robinson MP
Mr Francie Molloy
Mrs Eileen Bell

Quorum: The Commission will decide its quorum at the first meeting.

5. The Initial Presiding Officer:-

That under the terms of Initial Standing Order 15 this Assembly appoints an ad hoc Committee to consider the procedural consequences of devolution as they are likely to affect the relationship between, and workings of the Northern Ireland Assembly and, by Tuesday 6 October 1998 to submit a report to the Assembly which, if approved, will be forwarded to the Procedure Committee of the House of Commons.

Composition:	UUP	4
	SDLP	4
	DUP	3
	SF	3
	Alliance	1
	UKUP	1
	PUP	1
	NIWC	1

Quorum: 8

6. Mr D Haughey:-

That the Assembly takes note of the Interim Report prepared by the Committee on Standing Orders and grants leave for the preparation and presentation of a full Report by 26 October 1998.

(Under the terms of Initial Standing order 12(2) this motion will require cross-community support.)

7. The First Minister (designate), the Rt Hon D Trimble MP, and the Deputy First Minister (designate), Mr S Mallon MP:-

That this Assembly takes note of the Report prepared by the First Minister (designate) and the Deputy First Minister (designate) and grants leave for the

preparation and presentation of such further reports by
the two Ministers as are considered necessary.

8. Adjournment debate.

Denis Haughey Esq MP
First Deputy
Joint Chair
Committee on Standing Orders
The New Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
Belfast BT4 3SW

September 1998

Dear Denis
I am most grateful to you and your fellow Committee members for the
interventions you sent me on 8 September.

We will be incorporating most of those comments and suggestions in the
Additional Standing Orders. (Our detailed reactions are summarised in the
attached annex). It was also helpful to have your comments before 14
September although, in the circumstances, we intend to defer actually making
these Additional Standing Orders until after the Assembly has had an
opportunity to consider your report, to take any more points and which we
should take into account.

Regarding your Committee's intention to keep abreast of developments in the
Northern Ireland Bill. Obviously, the Standing Orders which you will need to
draw up to govern the conduct of Assembly business after devolution will need
to be fully consistent with the Northern Ireland Bill, once enacted. We certainly
expect it to receive Royal Assent around mid-November.