

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE. — *Ordered*, That the House of Assembly appoint a Commission of Inquiry scrutiny committee, with leave to sit on 5 and 6 December 2023 to inquire into the Government's response to the Commission of Inquiry in accordance with the following schedule and rules.

The schedule is as follows:

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| Tuesday, 5 December 2023   | 09.30-11.00, 11.05-12.20 Premier (2hr 45mins)<br>12.25-12.45 Minister for Mental Health (20mins)<br>13.30-14.30, 14.35-15.35 Minister for Health (2hrs)<br>15.45-16.45, 16.50-17.50 Minister for Education, Children and Youth ( <i>Out of Home Care</i> ) (2hrs)  |
| Wednesday, 6 December 2023 | 10.00-11.30 Minister for Education, Children and Youth ( <i>Education</i> ) (1hr 30mins)<br>11.40-13.00, 14.00-14.40 Minister for Education, Children and Youth ( <i>Youth Justice</i> ) (2hrs)<br>14.45-16.15 Attorney-General (1hr 30mins)<br>16.20-17.20 Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management (1hr) |

#### MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE—

- (1) The Committee shall consist of five Members appointed by the House as follows:—  
Mr *Wood* (Chair);  
Ms *Johnston* (Deputy Chair);  
Two Members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition; and  
One Member nominated by the Leader of the Greens.
- (2) During sittings, substitute Members may be allowed.
- (3) If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Committee, the Speaker may nominate a Member in substitution, but in so doing has regard to the composition of the Committee appointed by the House.
- (4) The Committee may proceed with business despite a vacancy in its membership.
- (5) The Chair of the Committee has a deliberative and a casting vote.
- (6) The quorum of the Committee is a majority of Committee Members.
- (7) If at any time a quorum is not present, the Chair will suspend proceedings of the Committee until a quorum is present or adjourn the Committee.
- (8) Any time lost for lack of a quorum shall be added to the time allocated to that session.
- (9) Members of the House who have not been appointed as Members of the Committee, may participate in proceedings by asking questions, but not more than two in succession; and may not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purposes of a quorum.

#### SITTING TIMES

- (1) The Committee meets only in accordance with the time-table adopted by the House or as varied by the Chair.
- (2) A minimum 45 minute period shall be provided each day at the discretion of the Chair for the purpose of a luncheon break.
- (3) The Committee may sit only when the House is not sitting.

#### HEARINGS

All hearings of the Committee are open to the public except that any evidence stated by a witness to be of a confidential nature shall, if requested by at least one Member of the Committee, be heard in camera. Any such evidence shall not be published or in any way divulged by any Member of the Committee or any other person unless the Committee recommends it to the House and the House resolves that the information be made public.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

- (1) When the activities of a portfolio are to be examined at a Committee hearing it shall be represented by the responsible Minister.
- (2) Questions may only be put directly to the responsible Minister.
- (3) The Minister may be assisted where necessary by officers of the relevant Government Department in the provision of factual information.
- (4) Officers may answer questions at the request of the responsible Minister but shall not be required to comment on policy matters.
- (5) Time limits of one minute for a question and three minutes for an answer shall apply in the Committee.
- (6) Questions may be asked on a ratio of three Opposition, one Green, and one Independent or in such form as the Committee determines.
- (7) A Minister may advise the Committee that an answer to a question, or part of a question, will be given later to the Committee, and where possible that Committee sitting day.
- (8) Additional information may be provided to the Committee about an answer given.
- (9) Additional information—
  - (a) is to be written;
  - (b) given by a time decided by the Committee; and
  - (c) may be included in a volume of additional information laid on the Table of the House by the Committee.
- (10) If any Member persistently disrupts the business of the Committee, the Chair:
  - (a) names the Member;
  - (b) if the Member named is a Member of the Committee, suspends the sittings of the Committee until he or she has reported the offence to the Speaker; and
  - (c) if the Member named is not a Member of the Committee, orders that Member's withdrawal from the sittings of the Committee until he or she has reported the offence to the Speaker;
  - (d) as soon as practicable, the Chair advises the Speaker who then gives notice that the Member of the Committee be replaced.
- (11) If any objection is taken to a ruling or decision of the Chair:
  - (a) the objection must be taken at once and stated in writing;
  - (b) the Chair, as soon as practicable, advises the Speaker who makes a ruling on the matter; and
  - (c) the Committee may continue to meet but may not further examine the matter then under consideration.
- (12) Television coverage will be allowed, subject:—
  - (a) to the foregoing provisions contained under “Hearings”; and
  - (b) to the same guidelines that apply to televising of the House of Assembly itself.

#### TRANSCRIPT

An unedited transcript of Committee proceedings is to be circulated, in a manner similar to that used for other Committee transcripts, as soon as practicable after the Committee's proceedings.

Evidence taken *in camera* shall be printed on coloured paper and shall only be circulated to the Committee Members and shall not be divulged in any way to any other person.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- (1) A Report of the Committee is to be brought up by the Chair or the Deputy Chair to the House by 7 December 2023 and shall be the transcript of the public hearings and the minutes of the meetings of the Committee.
- (2) The Report may be taken into consideration at once or at a future time.
- (3) The following time limit applies to the debate to take note of the Report:

The Premier, Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Greens - 40 minutes, the Attorney-General, Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management and Minister for Education, Children and Youth – 30 minutes, any other Member - 20 minutes.