
Committee Stage: Monday 4 September 2023

Northern Ireland Budget (No. 2) Bill (Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Northern Ireland Budget (No. 2) Bill. Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document. The amendments are arranged in the order in which it is expected they will be decided.

This document should be read alongside the provisional Selection and Grouping by the Chairman of Ways and Means, which sets out the order in which the amendments will be debated.

—
Sir Robert Buckland

Simon Hoare

NC1

To move the following Clause—

“Northern Ireland Audit

- (1) The Northern Ireland Assembly Audit Committee may continue to exercise the functions conferred on the Department of Finance and Personnel by Article 6(2) of the Audit (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 (expenses of Northern Ireland Audit Office) throughout any period when the Assembly is not functioning and notwithstanding any dissolution of the Assembly.
- (2) On a dissolution of the Assembly the person who is then the Chair of the Northern Ireland Assembly Audit Committee shall continue in office as Chair of the committee until a new Chair of the committee is appointed.
- (3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), any member of the Northern Ireland Assembly Audit Committee shall continue in office until members are nominated or appointed in their place.
- (4) Where at any time after the Assembly has been dissolved it appears that the Chair of the Northern Ireland Assembly Audit Committee—
 - (a) has not been validly nominated as a candidate at the ensuing Assembly election; or
 - (b) although so nominated, has not been elected a Member of the Assembly at that election, that Chair shall resign from the committee forthwith, and the remaining members of the committee must choose, elect or

appoint one of the members of the committee to act as Chair of the committee until after the Northern Ireland Assembly has elected a Presiding Officer following the Assembly election.

- (5) Where at any time after the Assembly has been dissolved it appears that a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly Audit Committee—
 - (a) has not been validly nominated as a candidate at the ensuing Assembly election; or
 - (b) although so nominated, has not been elected a Member of the Assembly at that election, that member shall resign from the committee forthwith.
- (6) Nothing in subsections (4) or (5) shall be taken as preventing any such Chair or member from resigning otherwise than in pursuance of that subsection.
- (7) In this section, “Northern Ireland Assembly Audit Committee” means the committee established by the standing orders of the Assembly in accordance with section 22 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 to exercise, in place of the Department of Finance and Personnel, the functions conferred on that Department by Article 6(2) of the Audit (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 (expenses of Northern Ireland Audit Office).”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause is intended to preserve the independence of the Northern Ireland Audit Office during periods when the Assembly is not functioning by allowing the Northern Ireland Assembly Audit Committee to agree, in place of the Department of Finance, the estimates of the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

Claire Hanna
Colum Eastwood

NC2

To move the following Clause—

“Consultation with the Government of Ireland

The Secretary of State must, within one month of the passage of this Act, provide a detailed summary to and consult with the Government of Ireland on the provisions within the Northern Ireland Budget, and have regard to the views of the Government of Ireland.”