

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

ARRANGEMENTS FOR BUSINESS AND BUSINESS SCHEDULE FOR WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, 10 and 11 FEBRUARY 2021*

Wednesday 10 February 2021 (10.00 a.m. – 6 p.m.) [Convention Centre Dublin]

Private Members' Business (Labour):	10.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. (120 mins)
- Motion <i>re</i> national aggressive Covid-19 suppression strategy	
Leaders' Questions (SF, Lab, Reg Grp, Ind Grp)	12.00 p.m. – 12.34 p.m. (34 mins)
Order of Business**	12.34 p.m. – 1.04 p.m. (30 mins)
Motion with debate	
- Motion <i>re</i> Leaders' Questions rota ***	
Government Business:	1.04 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. (4 hrs 56 mins)
- Statements and Q&A by the Minister for Transport on Covid-19, Transport and Travel [<i>working title</i>] (Dept of Transport) (135 mins)	
- Motion <i>re</i> Appointment to Legal Services Regulatory Board (45 minutes) (Dept of Justice) ***	
- Criminal Procedure Bill 2021 – Second Stage (Dept of Justice) (to adjourn at 6.00p.m., if not previously concluded) ***	
Adjournment	6.00 p.m.

Thursday 11 February 2021 (10.00 a.m. – 6.22 p.m.) [Convention Centre Dublin]

Government Business:	10.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. (120 mins)
- Criminal Procedure Bill 2021 – Second Stage (<i>resumed, if not previously concluded</i>)***	
- Counterfeiting Bill 2020 – Second Stage (Department of Justice) ***	
Leaders' Questions (SF, Soc Dems, Reg Grp, Rural Ind Grp)	12.00 p.m. – 12.34 p.m. (34 mins)
Questions on Promised Legislation	12.34 p.m. – 1.04 p.m. (30 mins)
Government Business:	1.04 p.m. – 5.34 p.m. (4 hrs 30 mins)
- Statements and Q&A by the Minister for Health on Covid Vaccination Rollout (Dept of Health) (100 mins)	
- Motion <i>re</i> Dumping at Sea Act 1996 Commencement Order 2021 (Dept of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) (105 mins) ***	
- Criminal Procedure Bill 2021 – Second Stage (<i>resumed, if not previously concluded</i>)***	
- Counterfeiting Bill 2020 Order – Second Stage (<i>resumed, to adjourn at 5.34 p.m., if not previously concluded</i>) ***	
Topical Issues	5.34 p.m. – 6.22 p.m. (48 mins)
Adjournment	6.22 p.m.

* **Sittings subject to reduced numbers**

** **Any divisions on reduced numbers**

*** **No immediate division, if claimed**

The proposed arrangements for the taking of business are as follows:

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DÁIL BUSINESS
Wednesday proposal no. 1 – Oral Parliamentary Questions
- Oral Parliamentary Questions pursuant to Standing Order 46 shall not be taken
Wednesday proposal no. 2 – Motion <i>re</i> Leaders' Question rota
- Shall be taken without debate
Wednesday proposal no. 3 – No suspension of sitting

- There shall be no suspension of sitting pursuant to the weekly Dáil schedule agreed by Order of the Dáil on 16th December 2020

Wednesday proposal no. 4 – Statements and Q&A by the Minister for Transport on Covid 19, Transport and Travel (working title)

- Shall not exceed 135 minutes and the arrangements shall be in accordance with those agreed by Order of the Dáil of 30th July, 2020, for 135 minutes, provided that members may use their time for a combination of statements and questions and answers, or questions and answers only, and all members may share time

Wednesday proposal no. 5 – Motion re: Appointment to Legal Services Regulatory Board

- Shall be brought to a conclusion within 45 minutes, and the following arrangements shall apply:
 - (i) a Minister or Minister of State and representatives of Sinn Féin, the Labour Party, Social Democrats, Solidarity-People Before Profit, the Regional Group, the Rural Independent Group and the Independent Group, who shall be called upon in that order, may each make a speech not exceeding 5 minutes;
 - (ii) a Minister or Minister of State may make a speech in reply, which shall not exceed 5 minutes; and
 - (iii) all members may share time

Wednesday proposal no. 6 – Topical issues

- Topical issues pursuant to Standing Order 37 shall not be taken

Wednesday proposal no. 7 – Voting block deferred

- Any division that would have been taken in the weekly division time this evening shall be deferred until the next weekly division time

Wednesday proposal no. 8 – Adjournment

- in relation to the adjournment of the Dáil—
 - (i) where the business is not concluded by 6 p.m., the proceedings on any business under consideration shall be interrupted and the Dáil shall adjourn at 6 p.m.,
 - (ii) where the business concludes before 6 p.m., the Dáil shall adjourn forthwith, and
 - (iii) on its rising, the Dáil shall adjourn until 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, when it shall meet in the Convention Centre Dublin to take the Criminal Procedure Bill 2021 – Second Stage (if not previously concluded), and the Counterfeiting Bill 2020 – Second Stage

Thursday proposal no. 1 – Oral Parliamentary Questions

- No oral Parliamentary Questions pursuant to Standing Order 46 shall be taken

Thursday proposal no. 2 – Suspension

- if Second Stage of either the Criminal Procedure Bill 2021 or the Counterfeiting Bill 2020 conclude prior to 12 noon, the sitting shall stand suspended until 12 noon

Thursday proposal no. 3 – No suspension of sitting

- There shall be no suspension of sitting pursuant to the weekly Dáil schedule agreed by Order of the Dáil on 16th December 2020

Thursday proposal no. 4 – Statements and Q&A by the Minister for Health on Covid-19 Vaccination Rollout

- Shall not exceed 100 minutes and the arrangements shall be in accordance with those agreed by Order of the Dáil of 30th July, 2020, for 100 minutes, provided that members may use their time for a combination of statements and questions and answers, or questions and answers only, and all members may share time

Thursday proposal no. 5 – Motion re Dumping at Sea Act 1996 Commencement Order 2021

- Shall not exceed 105 minutes and the arrangements shall be in accordance with those agreed by Order of the Dáil of 30th July, 2020, for 100 minutes, to conclude with a 5-minute speech in reply by a Minister or Minister of State, and all members may share time

Thursday proposal no. 6 – Topical issues

- Topical issues pursuant to Standing Order 37 shall be taken not later than 5.34 p.m.

Thursday proposal no. 7 – Thursday evening business

- No Thursday evening business pursuant to Standing Order 159(2) shall be taken

Thursday proposal no. 8 – Adjournment of the Dáil

- The Dáil shall adjourn on the conclusion of topical issues until 10 a.m. on Wednesday 17th February 2021 when it shall meet in the Convention Centre Dublin to take private members' business

NOTE RE TWO-DAY SITTING WEEK

For the information of members, the decision of the Business Committee that the Dáil sit for two days only this week, was made on the basis of health and safety advice.

MEMBERS DISSENTING

Deputies Pádraig MacLochláinn, Cian O'Callaghan, Richard Boyd-Barrett, Denis Naughten, Mattie McGrath and Thomas Pringle expressed their dissent in relation to the Dáil not sitting on Friday to discuss the 2021 Leaving Certificate, and the Covid-19 vaccination rollout and public health response.

Deputy Duncan Smith dissented to the lack of a standing slot to discuss the Covid-19 response.

Deputy Pádraig MacLochláinn dissented to the fact that private members' time was only being taken for one slot in the week.

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett expressed his dissent that Taoiseach's oral parliamentary questions were not being taken, and also in relation to the speaking arrangements adopted by Order of the Dáil of 30th July, 2020.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Wednesday from 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon

Labour – Motion re national aggressive Covid-19 suppression strategy [*working title*]

INDICATIVE BUSINESS FOR 17th AND 18th FEBRUARY

Continuation of Government's legislative programme, along with Covid-19 response-related matters

DEFERRED DIVISIONS ON HAND RELATING TO MOTIONS AND 2ND STAGES OF BILLS

Thirty-Seventh Amendment of the Constitution (Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) Bill 2018 – Second Stage – Amendment no. 1

Motion re Proposed approval by Dáil Éireann of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 (Covid Restrictions Support Scheme) (Percentage Adjustment) Order 2021 – Amendment no. 1

Motion re Household utility bill supports – motion, as amended

BUSINESS COMMITTEE
4 February 2021