

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, 13 & 14 JANUARY 2021

## **Announcement of business for the Week:**

Wednesday's business shall be:

- **Item 16**, Statements by Leaders on the Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes (*110 mins*)
- **Item 17**, Statements on Health and Covid-19 (*100 mins*) (*statements only, not including Q&A*)
- **Item 18**, Statements and Questions and Answers on Health and Covid-19 (100 mins) (*members may use their time for a combination of statements and Q&A, or Q&A only*)

Thursday's business shall be:

- **Item 19**, Statements and Questions and Answers by the Minister for Education on Education and Covid-19
- **Item 20**, Statements and Questions and Answers by the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science on Higher Education and Covid-19

## **Proposed Arrangements for this week's business:**

In relation to Wednesday's business, there are 8 proposals. It is proposed that:

1. Oral Parliamentary Questions pursuant to Standing Order 46 shall not be taken;
2. **Item 16**, Statements by Leaders on the Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes, shall not exceed 110 minutes, and shall be confined to a single round, to which the following arrangements shall apply:
  - (i) the Taoiseach, the Tánaiste and the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth shall be called upon in that order and their statements shall not exceed 15 minutes (in the case of the Taoiseach) and 10 minutes each (in the case of the Tánaiste and the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth respectively); and

- (ii) following the Government contributions, the statement of the leader of Sinn Féin shall not exceed 15 minutes, followed by the leaders or a representative of 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, and whose statements shall not exceed 10 minutes each;
3. **Item 17**, Statements on Health and Covid-19, shall not exceed 100 minutes, with arrangements as agreed by Order of the Dáil of 30th July, 2020, for 100 minutes, and all members may share time;
4. **Item 18**, Statements and Questions and Answers on Health and Covid-19, shall not exceed 100 minutes, with arrangements as 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;
5. there shall be no suspension of sitting pursuant to the weekly Dáil schedule agreed by Order of the Dáil of 16th December 2020;
6. private members' business pursuant to Standing Order 159 shall not be taken;
7. topical issues pursuant to Standing Order 37 shall not be taken; and
8. the Dáil shall adjourn on the conclusion of item 18 until 12 noon tomorrow, when it shall meet in the Convention Centre Dublin.

In relation to Thursday's business, there are 6 proposals. It is proposed that:

1. no oral Parliamentary Questions pursuant to Standing Order 46 shall be taken;
2. **Item 19**, Statements and Questions and Answers by the Minister for Education on Education and Covid-19, shall not exceed 135 minutes, with arrangements as 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;
3. **Item 20**, Statements and Questions and Answers by the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science on Higher Education and Covid-

19, shall not exceed 135 minutes, with arrangements as 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;

4. there shall be no suspension of sitting pursuant to the weekly Dáil schedule agreed by Order of the Dáil of 16th December 2020;
5. topical issues pursuant to Standing Order 37 shall be taken on the conclusion of Item 20; and
6. no Thursday evening business pursuant to Standing Order 159(2) shall be taken.

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