

House of Representatives

Supplementary Order Paper

Tuesday, 18 July 2023

Local Government Electoral Legislation Bill

Proposed amendments

Hon Kieran McAnulty, in Committee, to move the following amendments:

Clause 2

In *clause 2(1)*, replace “**subsection (2)**” (page 3, line 5) with “**subsections (1A) and (2)**”.

After *clause 2(1)* (page 3, after line 6), insert:

- (1A) **Section 44(6)** (which relates to local government members attending meetings remotely counting as present) comes into force on **1 October 2024**.

Clause 44

After *clause 44(5)* (page 20, after line 7), insert:

- (6) In Schedule 7, replace clause 25A(4) with:
 - (4) A member of the local authority or committee who attends a meeting by means of audio link or audiovisual link, in accordance with this clause, is to be counted as present for the purposes of clause 23.
- (7) In Schedule 7, heading to clause 25B, replace “**1 April 2024**” with “**30 September 2024**”.
- (8) In Schedule 7, clause 25B(7), replace “the close of 1 October 2024” with “1 October 2024”.

Explanatory note

This Supplementary Order Paper amends the Local Government Electoral Legislation Bill.

These amendments provide for members of a local authority or committee who attend meetings remotely to be counted towards a quorum under clause 23 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

These amendments replace similar temporary measures that were established in response to COVID-19 and severe weather events and that are due to expire at the end of September 2024. However, whereas the temporary measures provide that all members of local authorities and their committees are entitled to attend meetings remotely and that any remote attendance will count towards a meeting's quorum, these amendments would, from the beginning of October 2024, leave it to individual local authorities to decide in their standing orders whether remote attendance is allowed, with remote attendance counting towards a meeting's quorum only if the standing orders allow remote attendance.

Departmental disclosure statement

The Department of Internal Affairs considers that a departmental disclosure statement is not required to be prepared for this Supplementary Order Paper.