

Stormont Weekly Schedule Proposal

So back when we were discussing ways to revitalise Stormont, members said that they would find a weekly schedule (similar to Holyrood's) useful in helping them plan their participation. We agreed to roll with the idea and here is our proposal for the schedule.

Monday	Executive Office or Minister's Questions
Tuesday	Previous week's votes open
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	Previous week's votes close
Saturday	Bill
Sunday	Motion

Executive Office Questions would mirror PMQs by being held every second week rather than the weekly practice favoured in Holyrood. It has been scheduled for Monday in order to match the real life practice of EO Questions taking place at the start of the week's sitting.

Members said that they would prefer the main activity to be held over the weekend and that was the main driver behind the schedule - which also allows for the debate on the (arguably more important) bill to last an extra 24 hours before the vote commences.

Having the debates at the weekend does mean that the votes take place midweek - but we have got a schedule which allows for the maximum possible voting time without asking the speakership team to do more than one thing per day.

If there's no objections we'll trial this out after the upcoming election - although any suggestions/alterations are very welcome.