**DRAFT RULES**

As presented to the Subcommittee on the Review of the National Assembly Rules on 19 February 2021.

**Composition of the Chief Whips’ Forum**

**257. Composition**

1. The Chief Whips’ Forum consists of the following persons only –
2. the House Chairpersons;
3. the Chief Whip and the Deputy Chief Whip of the majority party and the whip of the majority party responsible for programming;
4. the parliamentary counsellors to the President and Deputy President;
5. the Chief Whip of the largest opposition party and one other whip from that party; and
6. **[the most senior whip of]** one member from each of the other parties represented in the Assembly.
7. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker may attend meetings of the Chief Whips’ forum or designate someone to attend on their behalf.
8. A member referred to in Subrules (1)(b)(d) and (e) who is unable to attend a meeting of the Forum may designate another member to attend the meeting, provided that the number of party representatives in attendance may not exceed those provided for in the relevant rules.
9. Rule 156 does not apply to this forum.

**Questions to the Deputy President**

**139. Questions to the Deputy President**

(1) Questions to the Deputy President must be scheduled by the Programme Committee in accordance with Rule 210 for a question day at least once per quarter **[once per month]** during session time in accordance with the annual programme of the Assembly; **[outside of question time for ministers]** provided that a question day to the Deputy President —

(a) **[questions to the Deputy President]** may not be scheduled for any week in which questions to the President are scheduled; and

(b) **[the Programme Committee must further determine which months qualify as months during session time within the annual programme for the purposes of this rule]** is scheduled outside of the question time for Ministers.