



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

**COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2013**  
**SENATE CHAMBER**

**Present:**

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Seán Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr John Dallat MLA  
Mr Stewart Dickson MLA  
Mr Alex Easton MLA  
Ms Dolores Kelly MLA  
Mr Declan McAleer MLA  
Mr David McNarry MLA  
Mr Ian McCrea MLA

**In attendance:**

Mr Paul Carlisle (Clerk to the Committee)  
Mr Nathan McVeigh (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Ms Tara McKee (Clerical Supervisor)  
Ms Alison Ferguson (Clerical Officer)  
Mr Brian Mahon (Bursary Student)

**Apologies:**

Mr Ross Hussey MLA  
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

*10.32am The meeting commenced in public session*

**1. Apologies**

As above.

**2. Chairperson's Business**

None.

10.38am Mr McNarry joined the meeting

### 3. Draft Minutes

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

Mr Dallat commended the facilities at Adelaide Train Maintenance Facility.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department asking if the work on the Coleraine to Londonderry/Derry line is on schedule.

### 4. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Education regarding the Inquiry into Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport Options and agreed to include in the Committee Inquiry.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Health, Social Services and Public Safety regarding the Inquiry into Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport Options and agreed to include in the Committee Inquiry.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding the European Commission Work Programme.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding the Draft Disability Action Plan 2013-2016 and Five Year Review of Progress against Disability Duties.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding a Briefing on Ensuring a Sustainable Transport Future.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Mid-Year Performance Monitoring 2012-13.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding a Request for legal opinions – Lennon Tribunal Case.

- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Accessible Transport Strategy Action Plan 2012-2015 and to schedule a presentation.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding The Parking Places (Disabled Persons' Vehicles) (Amendment No.7) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Proposal to permit all taxis to use bus lanes.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Belfast on the Move.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Review of the Balance of Competences.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Public Consultation on Proposed Changes to Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 (RVAR) and Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Application for Exemption Order) Regulation (Northern Ireland) 2013. and to schedule a presentation.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister for Regional Development regarding Memorandums of Reply on PAC reports from the 2010-11 session.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Future Railways Investment Consultation Paper.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Connecting Europe Facility and Trans European Transport Network Regulation.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Queries following presentation on January Monitoring Round.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding Penalty Charge Notice – Ms Florence Herbert.

- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from DRD regarding a Briefing paper on Public Transport Reform.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Belfast Education and Library Board regarding the Inquiry into Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport Options and agreed to include in the Committee Inquiry.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Southern Education and Library Board regarding the Inquiry into Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport Options and agreed to include in the Committee Inquiry.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the North Eastern Education and Library Board regarding the Inquiry into Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport Options and agreed to include in the Committee Inquiry.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Belfast Chamber of Trade and Commerce regarding Presentation to Committee and to schedule a briefing.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Consumer Council regarding the Draft Forward Work Programme for Energy, Water and Transport 2013/14.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Investment Strategy Northern Ireland regarding Investing Activity Report December 2012.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Northern Ireland Assembly Legislative Strengthening Trust regarding Effective Questioning and Scrutiny Workshop.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Suggested questions to ask those briefing the Committee in relation to the Water Bill and the Inquiry.

## **5. Northern Ireland Committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions Briefing: Water Bill**

10.45am      *The following representatives joined the meeting:*

John Corey – Chairperson Coalition against Water Charges

Ryan McKinney – NIPSA Assistant Secretary

Manus Maguire – Community Representative

The representatives presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

11.02am      *Mr McAleer left the meeting*

11.05am      *Mr Dickson left the meeting*

11.09am      *Mr Easton joined the meeting*

11.16am      *The representatives left the meeting*

## **6. Northern Ireland Water Briefing: Water Bill**

11.17am      *The following representatives joined the meeting:*

Trevor Haslett – Chief Executive

Michael Mulholland

The representatives presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

11.17am      *Mr McAleer rejoined the meeting*

11.39am      *Mr Dickson rejoined the meeting*

11.40am      *Mr Spratt left the Chair and was replaced by Mr Séan Lynch*

11.40am      *Mr Spratt left the meeting*

11.40am      *Mr Dallat left the meeting*

11.47am      *Mr Spratt rejoined the meeting*

11.47am      *The Officials left the meeting*

## **7 Subordinate legislation not subject to Assembly procedure**

Members noted:

- The Waiting Restrictions (John Street, Castlederg) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012
- The Roads (Classification) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012
- The Waiting Restrictions (Holywood) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Waiting Restrictions (Fivemiletown) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Parking Places, Loading Bays and Waiting Restrictions (Portadown) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

11.47am *Mr McNarry left the meeting*

11.48am *The meeting was suspended*

1.09pm *The meeting recommenced in public session with Mr Spratt in the Chair.*

1.09pm *Mr McCrea joined the meeting*

#### **8. CTA Briefing: The Inquiry into better use of public and community sector funds for the delivery of bus transport in Northern Ireland**

1.12pm *The following representatives joined the meeting:*

Kellie Armstrong – Director for Northern Ireland

Stephen Wood – NI Committee Member and Independent Transport Consultant

Ian Wilson – Manager DART Partnership and NI Committee Member

The representatives presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

1.17pm *Mr Dickson rejoined the meeting*

1.27pm *Mr McNarry rejoined the meeting*

1.50pm *Mr McCrea left the meeting*

1.56pm *Mr Dallat left the meeting*

1.57pm *The Officials left the meeting*

#### **9. Easilink Briefing: The Inquiry into better use of public and community sector funds for the delivery of bus transport in Northern Ireland**

1.58pm *The following representatives joined the meeting:*

Daniel O'Hagan – Easilink Chairperson

Mary T Conway – Easilink Vice Chairperson

Bert Wilson – Easilink Director

Paddy McEldowney – Easilink Manager

The representatives presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

1.58pm        *Mr McNarry left the meeting*

1.58pm        *Mr Dallat rejoined the meeting*

1.58pm        *Mr McNarry rejoined the meeting*

2.04pm        *Mr McCrea rejoined the meeting*

2.33pm        *Mr McNarry left the meeting*

2.37pm        *Mr McNarry rejoined the meeting*

2.40pm        *The Officials left the meeting*

#### **10. Any Other Business**

*NONE*

#### **11. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at 10.30am in the Senate Chamber.

2.41pm        *The meeting was adjourned*

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**Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA**  
**Deputy Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development**  
**16/01/13**