



# Committee for Infrastructure

## Minutes of Proceedings

26 May 2021

**Meeting Location:** The Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings

**Present:** Ms Michelle McIlveen MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr David Hilditch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Keith Buchanan MLA  
Mr Andrew Muir MLA

**Present by Video or Teleconference:**  
Ms Martina Anderson MLA  
Mr Roy Beggs MLA  
Mr Cathal Boylan MLA  
Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA  
Ms Liz Kimmins MLA

**Apologies:** None

**In Attendance:** Mrs Alison Ross (Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Jonathan Lawless (Assistant Assembly Clerk)



Mr William Kinnear (Clerical Supervisor)

The meeting commenced at 10:01 am in open session

**1. Apologies**

As above.

**2. Chairpersons Business**

None.

**3. Draft Minutes.**

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19 May 2021.

**4. Matters Arising**

**Agreed:** The Committee noted that the informal meetings with Bus and Coach Operators and the Transport Hub Alternative Group have been arranged for 27 May 2021 and 10 June 2021 respectively.



## 5. Correspondence

Copy of the Examiner of Statutory Rules Thirty-Eighth Report of the Session 2020-2021.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note report.

Correspondence from the Minister for Infrastructure regarding a Statement to Assembly on the North South Ministerial Council (NSMC) Transport Sector Meeting on 5 May 2021.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

Mr Muir placed on record his disappointment that the Chair failed to ask questions of the Minister during the statement in the Chamber.

Mrs Anderson placed on record her disappointment that the Chair failed to ask questions of the Minister during the statement in the Chamber.

Correspondence from the Minister for Infrastructure regarding appointments to the Board of Belfast Harbour Commissioners.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

Copy of the Examiner of Statutory Rules Thirty-Ninth Report of the Session 2020-2021.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note report.

Correspondence from the Minister for Infrastructure regarding Planning decision LA0820160676DCA – Demolition of Footbridges, Dromore Town Park, Dromore, Co. Down.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.



## **6. Subordinate Legislation - SL1s - Not Subject to Assembly Proceedings**

The Committee considered the following SL1's not subject to any Assembly proceedings.

- SL1 - The Road Races (Cairncastle Hill Climb) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021.
- SL1 - The Parking Places (Disabled Persons' Vehicles) (Amendment No. 4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content with the proposals for the Statutory Rules.

## **7. SL1 - The Motor Vehicles (Driving Instruction) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021**

The Committee considered the SL1 - The Motor Vehicles (Driving Instruction) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the statutory rule.

## **8. SL1 - The Motor Vehicles (Driving Instruction) (Trainee Licence) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021**

The Committee considered the SL1 - The Motor Vehicles (Driving Instruction) (Trainee Licence) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the statutory rule.

Mrs Dolores Kelly joined the meeting at 10:09 am.



**9. SL1 - Trunk Road T6 (A4 Enniskillen Southern Bypass) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021**

The Departmental official joined the meeting at 10:11 am.

Mr David Millar, Head of Lands, Department for Infrastructure.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ascertain why it has approved a shared walking/cycling footway for the scheme, given that this seems to go against the department's own guidelines.

The Committee considered the SL1 - Trunk Road T6 (A4 Enniskillen Southern Bypass) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the statutory rule.

**10. SL1 - The River Erne (Diversion of Navigable Watercourse and Extinguishment of Public Rights Navigation) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021**

The Committee considered the SL1 - The River Erne (Diversion of Navigable Watercourse and Extinguishment of Public Rights Navigation) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the statutory rule.

**11. SL1 - The River Erne and River Sillees Bridge Orders (Northern Ireland) 2021**

The Committee considered the SL1 - The River Erne and River Sillees Bridge Orders (Northern Ireland) 2021.



**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the statutory rule.

The Departmental official left the meeting at 10:24 am

## **12. Subordinate Legislation - SRs - Not Subject to Assembly Proceedings**

The Committee considered the following SR not subject to any Assembly proceedings.

- SR 2021-128 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Crumlin) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to note the Statutory Rule.

## **13. Briefing from the Northern Ireland Local Government Association – the Review of Implementation of the Planning Act (NI) 2011**

The representatives joined the meeting at 10:24 am.

Ms Karen Smyth, Head of Policy & Governance, Northern Ireland Local Government Association

Mr Steven Corr, Councillor, Belfast City Council

Mr John Linden, Head of Planning, Newtownabbey Borough Council

The representatives provided the Committee with an oral briefing.



A question and answer session followed.

**Agreed:** The representatives agreed to provide further information on the attendance of all councils at meetings.

The Chairperson left the meeting at 11:30 am. The Deputy Chairperson assumed the Chair.

The Deputy Chairperson thanked the representatives for their attendance.

The representatives left the meeting at 11:56 am.

#### **14. Briefing from CBI – the Review of Implementation of the Planning Act (NI) 2011**

The representatives joined the meeting at 11:57 am.

Mr Stuart Anderson, Senior Policy Advisor, CBI Northern Ireland

Mr Steven Agnew, Head of Renewable NI, Renewable NI

The representatives provided the Committee with an oral briefing.

A question and answer session followed.

The Chairperson re-joined the meeting at 12:12 pm and resumed the Chair.

Mr Boylan left the meeting at 12:26 pm.

Ms Liz Kimmins left the meeting at 12:34 pm.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their attendance.

The representatives left the meeting at 12:49 pm.



**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Committee for Finance to establish whether they were aware of the timeline for establishment of the Fiscal Council and to ascertain whether it envisages the Fiscal Council having a role to play in resolving disputes arising from the planning process.

#### **15. Forward Work Programme**

The Committee considered the Draft Forward Work Programme.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed the Forward Work Programme.

#### **16. Any Other Business**

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Department regarding road openings for the provision of utilities to ascertain and how they engage with utility providers; how they ensure roads are reinstated to a suitable standard and how the matter can be addressed if this is not done.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Minister requesting an update on the current position in relation to financial support for bus and coach operators, taxi operators and taxi drivers.





### **17. Date, Time and Place of the next meeting**

The Committee agreed that the next meeting would be on Wednesday, 2 June 2021 at 10:00 am in The Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 pm.

**Ms Michelle McIlveen MLA**  
**Chairperson, Committee for Infrastructure**

**2 June 2021**