



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

**COMMITTEE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

WEDNESDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2016

THE SENATE CHAMBER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Mr William Humphrey (Chairperson)

Ms Kellie Armstrong MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mr Paul Girvan MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA
Mr Eamonn McCann MLA
Mr Fra McCann MLA
Mr Justin McNulty MLA

In Attendance: Mrs Cathie White (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Vincent Gribbin (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Johnny Lawless (Clerical Supervisor)
Mrs Sharon Young (Clerical Officer)
Mr Daniel Lowe (Legislative Studies and Practice Student)

Apologies: Mr George Robinson MLA (Deputy-Chairperson)
Mr Daniel McCrossan MLA
Mrs Jenny Palmer MLA

10:00 am The meeting opened in public session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Chairpersons Business

- The Committee considered a Departmental response regarding the delay in processing Blue Badge applications.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- The Committee considered draft press releases regarding the ongoing backlog in Blue Badge applications and the Committee's visit to the Waterways Ireland, Enniskillen next week.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to issue the Blue Badges press release and to issue the Waterways Ireland press release next week along with a photograph of the visit.

- The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for Finance providing the Minister for Finance's timetable for the Budget process.

10:03 am Mr Justin McNulty joined the meeting.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

3. Minutes of the meetings held on 28 September 2016 & 5 October 2016

Agreed: The minutes of the meeting on 28 September 2016 were agreed.

Agreed: The minutes of the meeting on 5 October 2016 were agreed.

4. Matters Arising

None.

10:06 am Mr Declan McAleer left the meeting.

5. Correspondence

- Correspondence from Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland providing the Department for Infrastructure's Investing Activity Report for September 2016.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Invitation from the Policy Forum for Northern Ireland for the Chairperson and another Committee Member, from the opposition, to each Chair a Seminar on Planning in Northern Ireland.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Chairperson will accept the invitation and that another Committee Member, from the opposition, will decide among them who wishes to chair the second seminar.

- Departmental response regarding railways in Northern Ireland.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- Departmental response regarding Transport Projects and EU Funding.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- Departmental response regarding Budget Timescales.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- Northern Ireland Water response regarding the Elected Representatives Hotline Number.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- Departmental correspondence regarding the Consultation – Implementation of EU Directive 2015/719 on Maximum Authorised Weights and Dimensions in National and International Traffic.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Departmental response regarding issues raised at the Strategic Planning Day.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response and to seek clarification on a point raised by the Department by Members.

- Departmental response regarding the cost of agency staff across the Department.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- Departmental response regarding a request for The Road Worker Safety Forum (RoWSaf) Trial Team Meeting Minutes.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response and forward it to Mr Jordan for information.

- Departmental correspondence postponing its briefing to the Committee on the Programme for Government.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Departmental response to the Committee request for an update on the Integrated Passenger Transport Project.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- Departmental response to the Committee request for an update on the Review of Bus Operator Licensing.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- Departmental correspondence providing the synopsis of responses to the Consultation on Improvements to the ADI and AMI Schemes 2016.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence and schedule a briefing in the forward work programme.

- Correspondence from the Committee for the Executive Office providing an Assembly Research and Information Service on non-EU binding treaty obligations which will pertain to the UK post-Brexit.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Departmental response regarding the impact of Brexit on Departmental Structural Projects funded by the EU.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

- Invitation to Consumer Protection Communication Forum: Delivering for Consumers.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the invitation.

6. Subordinate Legislation – SL1’s Not Subject to Assembly Proceedings

- The Committee considered the following SL1 which is not subject to any Assembly proceedings.
 - SL1 – The Belfast Road, Carrickfergus (Part-Time 20mph Speed Limit) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content to note the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

7. SL1 – Proposals to Extend the Payment of Subsidy to NI Water in Lieu of Domestic Water Charging

The Committee considered proposals to Extend the Payment of Subsidy to NI Water in Lieu of Domestic Water Charging

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content to note the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

Mrs Kellie Armstrong stated she was not content with the proposal.

8. SL1 – The Baronscourt Lane, Carryduff (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

The Committee considered proposals for The Baronscourt Lane, Carryduff (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

10:10 am Mr Declan McAleer rejoined the meeting.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content to note the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

9. SL1 – The Richmond Crescent, Bangor (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

The Committee considered proposals for The Richmond Crescent, Bangor (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content to note the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

10. Subordinate Legislation – SR's Not Subject to Assembly Proceedings

- The Committee considered the following SRs which are not subject to any Assembly proceedings.
 - SR 2016-347 The Bus Lanes (Andersontown Road and Stewartstown Road, Belfast - between Finaghy Road North and Michael Ferguson Roundabout) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-348 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Ballymena) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-349 The Roads (Speed Limit) (No. 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-350 The Motor Hackney Carriages (Bangor) Bye-Laws (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-351 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Bangor) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-352 The Parking Places (Disabled Persons Vehicles) (Amendment No. 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-356 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Belfast) (Amendment No. 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-357 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Dungannon) (Amendment No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-358 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Carrickfergus) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-360 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Londonderry) (Amendment No 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
 - SR 2016-361 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Belfast) (Amendment No. 4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

- SR 2016-362 The Waiting Restrictions (Dundonald) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
- SR 2016-363 The Prohibition of U-Turn (A26 Lisnevenagh Road, Kells) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
- SR 2016-367 The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Mossley) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
- SR 2016-368 The Bus Lanes Order (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content to note the Statutory Rules.

11. SR 2016-343 The Passenger and Goods Vehicles (Tachographs) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Agreed: That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-343 The Passenger and Goods Vehicles (Tachographs) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

12. SR 2016-344 The Public Service Vehicles (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Agreed: That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-344 The Public Service Vehicles (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

13. SR 2016-370 The Derriagh Road, Lisburn (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

Agreed: That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-370 The Derriagh Road, Lisburn (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

14. Departmental Briefing – Budget Scrutiny

10:14 am The Departmental officials joined the meeting.

The Committee was briefed by Mr John McGrath, Deputy Secretary, Mr John McNeill, Director of Finance and Mr Stewart Barnes, Head of Financial Planning and Management Branch.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

10:30 am Mr Paul Girvan joined the meeting.

Agreed: The Departmental officials agreed to provide the Committee with in year pressures and spends and the breakdown of in year position in all Departmental Business Areas.

Agreed: The Departmental officials agreed to provide the Committee with the current level of reserves held by Translink.

10:48 am The Departmental officials left the meeting.

15. Departmental Briefing – Review of the Taxis Act

10:50 am The Departmental official joined the meeting.

The Committee was briefed by Ms Liz Loughran, Director of Road Safety Vehicle and Regulation, Mr Alex Boyle, Road Safety and Vehicle Registration Division and Mr Michael O'Neill, Road Safety and Vehicle Registration Division.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

Mrs Kellie Armstrong declared an interest as a Member of the Bus Forum.

11:33 am Mr Eamonn McCann left the meeting.

11:43 am The Departmental official left the meeting.

11:44 am The Committee adjourned.

11:50 am The Committee recommenced.

Present: Mr William Humphrey (Chairperson)

Ms Kellie Armstrong MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mr Paul Girvan MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA
Mr Fra McCann MLA
Mr Justin McNulty MLA

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to Mr Paul Duffy requesting that he explain his non-attendance at the Committee.

16. Draft Forward Work Programme

The Committee considered the draft Forward Work Programme for Autumn 2016.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the revised Forward Work Programme.

17. Any Other Business

- The Committee discussed a Departmental response regarding a request for The Road Worker Safety Forum (RoWSaf) Trial Team Meeting Minutes.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response and forward it to Mr Jordan for information.

Agreed The Committee discussed the Budget Briefing and agreed to request October Monitoring Round Details.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to receive a briefing from NI Water on the recent fish kill in the Annsborough River at its briefing on 26 October 2016.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Chief Executive of Belfast International Airport in relation to the impact of a breakdown of a cargo plane on the Airport runway and what measures have been put in place to prevent future delays due to such events.

18. Date, time and place of next meeting

The Committee noted that the next meeting should be held on Wednesday, 19 October 2016 at 10:30 am in Waterways Ireland, Enniskillen.

12:03 pm The Chairperson adjourned the meeting.

Mr William Humphrey MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Infrastructure

19 October 2016