

COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**TUESDAY 08 DECEMBER 2015
ROOM 30, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

- Present: Mr William Irwin MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Sydney Anderson MLA
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Mr Ian McCrea MLA
Mr Oliver McMullan MLA
Mr Ian Milne MLA
Mr Robin Swann MLA
- Apologies: Mr Joe Byrne MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Edwin Poots MLA
- In attendance: Ms Stella McArdle, Committee Clerk
Ms Lynda Conlon, Assistant Assembly Clerk
Mr Mark O'Hare, Clerical Supervisor
Ms Marion Johnson, Clerical Officer

10.46 a.m. The meeting commenced in Open Session.

- 11.07 a.m. Mr Milne and Mr McCrea joined the meeting.*
11.16 a.m. Mr Anderson left the meeting.
11.37 a.m. Mr Swann left the meeting.
11.38 a.m. Mrs Dobson joined the meeting.
11.39 a.m. Mr McCarthy joined the meeting.
11.40 a.m. Mr McAleer joined the meeting.
12.04 p.m. Mr Anderson rejoined the meeting.
12.17 p.m. Mr Milne left the meeting.
12.24 p.m. Mr McCrea left the meeting.

12.26 p.m. The meeting suspended.

- 1.38 p.m. *The meeting resumed in Open Session with the following Members in attendance: Mr Anderson; Mr Irwin; Mr McAleer; Mr McMullan; and Mr Swann.*
- 2.03 p.m. *Mr Milne rejoined the meeting.*
- 2.20 p.m. *Mr Swann left the meeting.*
- 2.53 p.m. *Mr Swann rejoined the meeting.*
- 2.54 p.m. *Mr Swann left the meeting.*
- 3.03 p.m. *Mr Swann rejoined the meeting.*
- 3.03 p.m. *Mr Anderson left the meeting.*
- 3.23 p.m. *Mr Anderson rejoined the meeting.*
- 3.36 p.m. *Mr McAleer left the meeting.*
- 3.42 p.m. *The meeting moved into Closed Session.*

The Clerk briefed the Committee on the Fisheries Bill.

- 3.52 p.m. *Mr McMullan left the meeting.*
- 3.55 p.m. *Mr McAleer rejoined the meeting.*
- 3.55 p.m. *Mr McMullan rejoined the meeting.*
- 3.57 p.m. *The meeting moved into Open Session.*

13. Oral Briefing DARD: Fisheries Bill

The following Departmental officials joined the meeting at 3.57 p.m.

Seamus Connor, Chief Fisheries Officer, DCAL
Liam Devlin, Deputy Principal, Inland Fisheries Group, DCAL
John Terrington, Fisheries Bill Team, DARD
Mark McCaughan, Chief Fisheries Officer, DARD
Paddy Campbell, Sea Fisheries Policy, DARD

The officials briefed the Committee and this was followed by a question and answer session.

- 4.04 p.m. *Mr McCrea rejoined the meeting.*
- 4.21 p.m. *Mr McCrea left the meeting.*
- 4.24 p.m. *Mr McCrea rejoined the meeting.*
- 4.40 p.m. *Mr McCrea left the meeting.*
- 4.45 p.m. *The officials left the meeting.*
- 4.46 p.m. *The meeting moved into Closed Session.*
- 4.46 p.m. *Mr McCrea rejoined the meeting.*

4.55 p.m. The meeting moved into Open Session.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to request clarification from DARD on alternative solutions to the potential infraction issues before deciding how to proceed with the Fisheries Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Clerk should seek advice on other options to address the potential infraction issues outlined by DARD.

4.57 p.m. The meeting adjourned.