

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **Title:**

Inquiry into issues around Emergency Exiting Plans, including their impact on stadium capacity, for the redeveloped Casement Park Stadium.

### **Objective:**

The objective of the inquiry is to ascertain whether appropriate consideration was given to plans for emergency exiting during the design process for the redeveloped Casement Park stadium.

### **Terms of Reference:**

This inquiry will:

#### **1. Establish a Context**

- ***Legislative Context*** – establishing the statutory and regulatory framework within which emergency exiting for sports stadium is considered.
- ***Local (internal) Context*** – establishing whether the approach taken towards emergency exiting planning for the Casement Park project was handled differently in comparison to the Windsor Park and Kingspan Stadium projects.
- ***Procedural Context*** – establishing whether there is acknowledged best practice in developing emergency exiting plans for sports stadia during the design process; including any necessary input that is required with respect to subsequent certification of the maximum safe capacity of a sports stadium.
- ***External Context*** – seeking best practice comparators, i.e. similar sports stadia that have been built with the input of public funding, and establishing how and when emergency exiting plans were developed for these.

#### **2. Establish the Decision-making Process Employed for the Casement Park rebuild with respect to Emergency Exiting Plans**

To establish a factual narrative around the discussions and decisions that have been made regarding how emergency exiting should be dealt with; including when, how, and by whom emergency exiting issues would be applied to the design process and the importance that would be attached to these; whether concerns about emergency exiting were raised and, if so, how these were dealt with; whether the Department and the Arm's Length Bodies managed the process appropriately; and whether there was undue pressure applied on safety advisers.

#### **3. Learning Lessons**

Establish what lessons can be learned from the Casement Park project with respect to emergency exiting and how these might be applied to the management of infrastructure projects in the future; including the sub-regional stadia programme.

To bring forward conclusions and recommendations in a report that will be debated in the Assembly.