



Northern Ireland
Assembly

**COMMITTEE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2020

THE SENATE CHAMBER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Ms Michelle McIlveen MLA (Chairperson)
Mr David Hilditch MLA (Deputy-Chairperson).
Ms Martina Anderson MLA
Mr Roy Beggs MLA
Mr Cathal Boylan MLA
Mr Keith Buchanan MLA
Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA
Ms Liz Kimmins MLA
Mr Andrew Muir MLA

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Mrs Cathie White (Assembly Clerk)
Mrs Alison Ross (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Johnny Lawless (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Bill Kinnear (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced in open session at 10:10 am.

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Chairpersons Business

The Chairperson advised the Committee that, along with the Deputy Chairperson and Clerk, she met representatives from the Construction Employers Federation on Tuesday 10 March 2020.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4 March 2020.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. Correspondence

Response from the Minister for the Economy to Committee correspondence regarding the wearing of safety helmets on quad bikes.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

Correspondence from the Committee for Finance regarding the budget process.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

Response from the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to Committee correspondence regarding the wearing of safety helmets on quad bikes.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

Response from the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to Committee correspondence regarding illegal dumping at the Mobuoy site.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department for Infrastructure regarding the sustainable integrated remediation programme between DAERA, Department for Infrastructure (DFI) Planning, DFI Roads and Northern Ireland Water, linked to an agreed vision for the future use of the site at Mobuoy and to provide details on the shared vision.

Response from the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to Committee correspondence regarding the Transfer of Functions in respect of Reservoirs.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

Correspondence from Niall Robb (Queen's PhD Student) requesting to meet with the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson regarding public transport intra UK.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

Departmental correspondence regarding appointments to the board of Trust Ports.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

Correspondence from System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI) congratulating the Chairperson on her appointment and offering to brief the Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to consider the request at the Strategic Planning Day.

Correspondence from Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council offering to host a meeting and brief the Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to consider the request at the Strategic Planning Day.

Ministerial correspondence regarding her legislative priorities over the coming months.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister expressing its disappointment at the lack of engagement with the Committee in respect of her legislative priorities, specifically regarding policy changes in respect of use of mobile phones when driving.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister expressing its disappointment at the lack of engagement ahead of issuing press releases about events such as the housing and infrastructure summit.

Departmental response to Committee correspondence regarding the issues arising from the Committee meeting on 19 February 2020.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response.

Correspondence from the Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry requesting to meet informally with the Committee at the Chamber's Headquarters.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to consider the request at its Strategic Planning Day

6. Briefing from Northern Ireland Water

The representatives joined the meeting at 10:26 am

Ms Sara Venning, Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Water

Mr Ronan Larkin, Director of Finance and Regulation, Northern Ireland Water

The representatives provided the Committee with a briefing on the work of Northern Ireland Water.

Mrs Dolores Kelly joined the meeting at 10:55 am.

A question and answer session followed.

Agreed: The representatives agreed to provide the Committee with statistical information regarding the number of houses on the Low Water Pressure Register.

Agreed: The representatives agreed to outline the timeline of growth of the Population Equivalent in Belfast Wastewater Treatment Works.

Mr Andrew Muir left the meeting at 12:03 pm.

The oral evidence session was reported by Hansard.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their attendance and hosting the meeting.

The representatives left the meeting at 12:24 pm.

7. Forward Work Programme

The Committee considered the Draft Forward Work Programme.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the forward work programme as amended.

8. Any Other Business

None.

9. Date, Time and Place of next meeting

The Committee noted that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 1 April 2020 in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Committee adjourned at 12:27 pm

Ms Michelle McIlveen MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Infrastructure

29 April 2020