



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

**COMMITTEE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE  
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 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 Vincent Gribbin (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Johnny Lawless (Clerical Supervisor)  
Mr William Kinnear (Clerical Officer)

*The meeting commenced in open session at 10:05 am.*

**1. Apologies**

As above.

**2. Chairpersons Business**

None.

**3. Draft Minutes**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23 September 2020.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department regarding SL1 The Regulation (EC) No 1370/2007 (Public Service Obligations in Transport) (Amendment) (EU Exit) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2020, considered at its meeting on 23 September 2020 and to request clarity on Regulation 3 which amends Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1370/2007 to remove references to community law, member states geographical territory and to disapply the retained EU regulation to works concession contracts and specifically what will replace this aspect of regulation.

#### **5. Correspondence**

Correspondence from the Committee on Procedures regarding the Review of Legislative Consent Motions.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed note the correspondence.

Copy of the Examiner of Statutory Rules Twenty-First Report of the 2019-2020 Session.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the report

Correspondence from Green Pastures Church regarding the provision of park and ride facilities in Ballymena.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to forward the correspondence to the Department for information and comment.

Correspondence from the Committee on Procedures regarding the temporary provisions of Standing Orders 110-116.

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

Correspondence from Dr. Steve Aiken MLA regarding the Withdrawal Agreement, Northern Ireland Protocol and Internal Market Bill.

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

Correspondence from the Examiner of Statutory Rules regarding approval for outstanding Statutory Rules.

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

## **6. SL1 - Amendment of The Road Traffic (Fixed Penalty) Order (Northern Ireland) 2007**

The Committee considered the SL1 - Amendment of The Road Traffic (Fixed Penalty) Order (Northern Ireland) 2007.

*The Departmental official joined the meeting at 10:14 am*

Mr Donald Starritt, Safe and Accessible Travel Branch

A question and answer session followed.

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

*The Departmental official left the meeting at 10:24 am.*

## **7. SL1 - Amendment of The Road Traffic Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1996**

The Committee considered the SL1 - Amendment of The Road Traffic Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1996.

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

## **8. SL1 - The Planning (Development Management) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020**

The Committee considered the SL1 - The Planning (Development Management) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020 by correspondence on 28 September 2020 and agreed that it was content with the proposal.

*The Members listed below gave their consent (via email) to the Department.*

Michelle McIlveen  
Andrew Muir  
Keith Buchanan  
Martina Anderson  
Cathal Boylan  
Liz Kimmins  
Roy Beggs

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

## **9. SR 2020-196 The Goods Vehicles (Testing) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020**

*The Departmental official joined the meeting at 10:28 am*

Mr Seamus Fitzsimmons, Safe and Accessible Transport Division

A question and answer session followed.

The Committee considered SR 2020-196 The Goods Vehicles (Testing) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020. The purpose of the Rule is to amend the Goods Vehicles (Testing) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 to exempt goods vehicles with a maximum gross weight not exceeding 3,500 kilograms, which are of historical interest to Northern Ireland from periodic roadworthiness testing.

*The Departmental official left the meeting at 10:35 am.*

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2020-196 The Goods Vehicles (Testing) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020, and, subject to the Examiner of Rules has no objection to the rule.

#### **10. SR 2020-197 The Motor Vehicle Testing (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020**

The Committee considered SR 2020-197 The Motor Vehicle Testing (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020. The purpose of the Rule is to amend the Motor Vehicle Testing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 to exempt motor vehicles of historical interest to Northern Ireland from periodic roadworthiness testing.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2020-197 The Motor Vehicle Testing (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020, and, subject to the Examiner of Rules has no objection to the rule.

#### **11. Departmental Briefing - SL1 - The Planning Act 2011 (Review) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020**

*The Departmental officials joined the meeting at 10:37 am*

Mr Angus Kerr, Director of Planning Policy  
Ms Irene Kennedy, Planning Policy Division (Via Starleaf)

The Departmental officials provided the Committee with an oral briefing.

The oral evidence session was reported by Hansard.

A question and answer session followed.

The Chairperson thanked the Departmental officials for their attendance.

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

*The Departmental officials left the meeting at 11:34 am*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department requesting information on what considerations it has given to subordinate legislative change, guidelines and or primary legislation within the scope of the review.

*Agreed;* The Committee agreed to reschedule item 12 for its meeting on 14 October 2020.

### **13. Forward Work Programme**

The Committee considered the Draft Forward Work Programme.

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

### **14. Any Other Business**

The Committee noted the closure of the Bus Eireann bus service Belfast to Dublin route.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Minister to ascertain if she has engaged with her counterpart in the Republic of Ireland regarding the Bus Eireann route closure, what the issues are that have caused the closure of the route and what can be done about it.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to Translink regarding the closure of the Bus Eireann Belfast to Dublin route and asking if Translink can fill any gap that has occurred as a result.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department requesting the Northern Ireland Executive budget 2020/21 timetable for the following actions; Conclusion of Departmental engagement, Ministerial Statement to Assembly on Treasury Budget Controls, Ministerial Bilaterals, Draft Budget paper to Executive, Draft Budget to Assembly, close of Budget Consultation, Budget agreement by Executive, assembly Debate and Vote.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted a research paper from the Assembly Research and Information Service on the Planning Act 2011 and Review Regulations and agreed to thank the Research Officer.

### **15. Date, Time and Place of next meeting**

The Committee agreed that the next meeting would be on Wednesday 7 October 2020 at 10:00 am in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

*The Committee adjourned at 11:40 am*

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

**7 October 2020**