



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

COMMITTEE FOR ENTERPRISE, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

6 OCTOBER 2015

ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, 10:00am

Present: Mr Patsy McGlone (Chairperson)
Mr Conor Murphy (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Steven Agnew
Mr Gordon Dunne
Mr Paul Girvan
Mr Paul Givan
Mr William Humphrey
Mr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir

In Attendance: Mr Jim McManus (Assembly Clerk)
Ms Angela McParland (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Michael Greer (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Marion Johnson (Clerical Officer)

Apologies: None

The meeting began at 10:06am

1. Apologies

No apologies have been received.

2. Draft Minutes of Meeting of 29th September

Agreed: the Committee agreed the draft minutes of 29th September 2015.

3. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Paul Girvan to the Committee. The Chairperson asked members if they are content to write to Mr Paul Frew, thanking him for his input and commitment to the work of the Committee.

Agreed: to write to Mr Paul Frew.

The Chairperson reminded members that a delegation from the Committee will visit IntertradeIreland on Wednesday morning.

The Chairperson reminded members that next week's Committee meeting will be held at Queen's University Centre for Cancer Research and Bell Biology and that the Committee Office will email be in touch regarding relevant information.

The Chairperson informed the members of correspondence from the Director of International Synergies NI Ltd.

Agreed: to receive a written briefing in the first instance and explore the matter of supply chain for exporting companies with Officials during today's oral briefing by DETI.

The Chairperson informed members of a Departmental response regarding Clause 1 of the Credit Unions and Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Bill.

Agreed: to ask the Department to bring an amendment to include a review and report clause in the Bill to report after two years.

The Committee agreed to move to Agenda item 6

6. Matters Arising

Members noted correspondence from Assembly Research regarding broadband market research.

Agreed: to write to the top five internet service providers seeking their views on the practicalities of ring-fencing IP addresses for their Northern Ireland customers.

Members noted correspondence from Ofcom in relation to the upcoming briefing by mobile network operators.

Agreed: to schedule a briefing from Ofcom.

Members noted correspondence from the British-Irish Council regarding online parcel premiums.

Members noted a survey in relation to the DETI Review of Business Red Tape which had been forwarded to the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development from the Department.

7. Legislation: SR 2015/339 The Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland)

Members discussed the SR 2015/339 The Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland)

Máirtín Ó Muilleoir left the meeting at 10:17am

Agreed: that the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment has considered SR2015/339 The Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) and, subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rule's Report, has no objection to the Rule.

8. Written Briefing from DETI: Update on Strategic Energy Framework (SEF) Review and Monitoring

Members noted a written briefing from DETI providing an update on the SEF.

Máirtín Ó Muilleoir returned to the meeting at 10:19am

Agreed: to ask the Department to provide details on the timeline for the review and for the development and completion of a revised SEF.

Agreed: to inform the Department that the Committee will receive a copy of the draft consultation document for its consideration prior to issue and then take evidence, if required, following receipt of consultation responses and before the completion of the strategy.

9. Correspondence

Members noted the following items of correspondence;

- i. Correspondence from the Strategic Investment Board regarding the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland – September 2015.
- ii. Correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission.

- iii. Correspondence from Solace NI regarding the protocol for a Committee to gather evidence from a local government perspective.
- iv. Correspondence from Windyfields and Simple Power regarding the consultation on the closure of NIRO for onshore wind.

Agreed: to consider these papers again when the Committee receives the outcomes of the consultation.

10. Any Other Business

There were no additional items of business.

11. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will take place on Thursday 15th October 2015 at 10.00am in Queen's University Centre for Cancer Research and Bell Biology.

The Chairperson suspended the meeting at 10:21am in order to allow members to participate in the Plenary debate on the Second Stage of the Credit Unions and Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Bill.

5. Oral Briefing by the Committee's Specialist Advisor

*The meeting recommenced at 12:07pm with the following members in attendance:
Patsy McGlone (Chairperson)
Steven Agnew
Paul Girvan
William Humphrey
Máirtín Ó Muilleoir*

Members agreed to move to Agenda Item 5 with Agenda Item 4 to follow.

The witness joined the meeting at 12:07pm

Members received a briefing from Dr Leslie Budd, Specialist Advisor.

The key issue discussed was the Committee's Inquiry into Growing the Economy and Providing Jobs with Lower Corporation Tax.

*Conor Murphy returned to the meeting at 12:12pm
Gordon Dunne returned to the meeting at 12:15pm*

The witness left the meeting at 12:37pm

4. Oral Briefing from DETI: Export Matters

The officials joined the meeting at 12:38pm

Steven Agnew left the meeting at 12:39pm

Members received a briefing from Mr Diarmuid McLean, Head of Economic Policy Division, DETI, Mr Shane Murphy, Head of Analytical Services Unit, DETI, Mr Bill Scott, Executive Director, International Business Group, Invest NI and Mr Aidan Gough, Strategy and Policy Director, InterTradeIreland.

The key issue discussed was the Export Matters Report.

The officials agreed to provide the Committee with regular progress reports.

Agreed: to ask Invest NI to provide a written briefing on the support it provides to companies who do not directly export.

Officials agreed to provide the Committee with regular progress reports.

The officials left the meeting at 13:30pm

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 13:30pm

Mr Patsy McGlone
Chairperson
Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment

15 October 2015