



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

COMMITTEE FOR ENTERPRISE, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

8 MARCH 2016

ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, 10:00am

- Present: Mr Patsy McGlone (Chairperson)
Mr Conor Murphy (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Adrian Cochrane-Watson
Mr Gordon Dunne
Mr David McIlveen
Mr Fearghal McKinney
Mr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir
- In Attendance: Mr Trevor Allen (Senior Assistant Clerk)
Ms Angela McParland (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Michael Greer (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Briege Mullan (Clerical Officer)
- Apologies: Mr William Humphrey

The meeting began at 10:18am

1. Apologies

Apologies as noted above.

2. Draft Minutes of Meeting 1st March 2016

Agreed: the Committee agreed the draft minutes of 1st March 2016.

3. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson informed Members that a revised agenda has been tabled to include the SL1 Proposed Renewables Obligation Closure Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

Agreed: Members agreed the revised agenda.

Members agreed to move to Agenda Item 12

12. Legislation: SL1 Renewable Obligation Closure Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

The officials joined the meeting at 10:20am

Members received a briefing from Chris Stewart, Head of Policy Group, DETI, John Mills, Head of Energy Division, DETI, Alison Clydesdale, Principal, Renewable Electricity Branch, DETI, and Alan Smith, Principal Economist, Co-ordination Branch, DETI.

Key issues discussed were the SL1 Renewable Obligation Closure Order (Northern Ireland) 2016, how the current scenario came about and the issues that led to it.

The Officials agreed to forward the number of applicants currently awaiting planning permission.

Adrian Cochrane-Watson joined the meeting at 10:29am

Máirtín Ó Muilleoir joined the meeting at 10:37am

As Members could not agree a position in respect of the SL1, the Committee divided;

Mr Gordon Dunne proposed the following motion:

‘That the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment supports the SL1.’

The question was put on Mr Dunne’s proposal.

The Committee divided: Ayes 4; Noes 3; Abstentions 0

AYES

*Mr Gordon Dunne
Mr David McIlveen
Mr Conor Murphy
Mr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir*

NOES
Mr Adrian Cochrane-Watson
Mr Patsy McGlone
Mr Fearghal McKinney

The motion was carried.

The officials left the meeting at 11:30am

Members agreed to move to Agenda Item 4

4. Oral Briefing from Tourism Northern Ireland: Update on Northern Ireland Year of Food and Drink 2016

The officials joined the meeting at 11:30am

Members received a briefing from Mr John McGrillen, Chief Executive, Ms Aine Kearney, Director of Business Support and Events, and Ms Naomi Waite, Director of Marketing.

Key issue discussed was the recent successes and upcoming events of the Northern Ireland Year of Food and Drink 2016 programme.

The Officials agreed to forward details of the monthly Tourism NI Board Meetings.

Adrian Cochrane-Watson left the meeting at 11:30

The officials left the meeting at 12:31pm

5. Matters Arising

Members considered correspondence from Cerberus European Capital Advisors LLP and correspondence in regards to the Office of New York City Comptroller.

Agreed: to respond to Cerberus informing it of the Committee's remit as a statutory body and asking that it comply with the Committee's request.

Members noted a Departmental response to the Committee's queries regarding the Explanatory Memorandum for the Closure of the Renewable Heat Incentive Schemes.

Members considered a list of outstanding Departmental responses to matters from previous meetings.

Agreed: to forward the list to the Department asking that the outstanding responses are received before the Committee's next meeting.

Members noted a BBC NI online news article regarding a poultry waste cross border project.

The Chairperson asked Members if they are content to forward to RTÉ all previous correspondence received from BT, TG4 and Ofcom in regards to online player services.

Agreed: to forward copies of the correspondence to RTÉ to assist it in its briefing to the Committee at the next meeting.

David McIlveen left the meeting at 12:38pm

6. Written Briefing from Assembly Research: Personalised Medicine in Scotland

Members discussed a briefing from Assembly Research on Personalised Medicine in Scotland.

Agreed: to forward the paper to the Department for information.

7. Retention and Disposal Schedule for Tourism Northern Ireland

Members discussed the Tourism Northern Ireland Retention and Disposal Schedule.

Agreed: that the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment has considered the Tourism Northern Ireland Retention and Disposal Schedule and has no objection to the Schedule.

8. Written Briefing from Invest NI: R&D Liaison Service Brussels Bulletin

Members noted the Invest NI: R&D Liaison Service Brussels Bulletin.

9. Correspondence

Members considered correspondence from the Irish League of Credit Unions regarding their Annual General Meeting. Members noted that the Committee Office had informed the ILCU that the Assembly will be dissolved at that time.

Members noted correspondence from the Quarry Products Association of Northern Ireland regarding a CBI Minerals Group publication.

Members noted a Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland submission to the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development in regards to farm safety.

Members noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding European Union reform.

Members noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding an update report by the Office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels (ONIEB) for November 2015 to February 2016.

Members noted correspondence from the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure to the Minister regarding the level of support to be offered to Libraries NI from the new Department.

Members noted correspondence from the Green Investment Bank regarding its privatisation.

Members noted the latest version of the EU Matters newsletter.

Members noted correspondence from the Department Liaison Officer regarding the Bombardier announcement on job losses.

Members noted correspondence from the Committee for Employment and Learning regarding the Bombardier announcement on job losses.

Agreed: the Committee will attend the informal meeting on Wednesday 9th March 2016 with the Minister for Employment and Learning and the Committee for Employment and Learning.

Agreed: Members will inform the Committee Office of their availability to attend.

10. Any Other Business

The Chairperson asked Members to agree that the Chair will sign off the Minutes of next week's meeting as it is scheduled to be the last meeting of the mandate.

Agreed: the Chairperson to sign off next week's minutes.

The Chairperson asked Members to agree that a standard letter is issued if correspondence arrives between next week's meeting and dissolution.

Agreed: to issue a standard letter stating that the Committee has no further meetings but the correspondence has been forwarded to its Members.

11. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will take place on Tuesday 15th March 2016 at 10.00am, Room 29.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:44pm

Mr Patsy McGlone
Chairperson
Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment

15th March 2016