



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

COMMITTEE FOR ENTERPRISE, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

15 MARCH 2016

ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, 10:00am

- Present: Mr Patsy McGlone (Chairperson)
Mr Conor Murphy (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Steven Agnew
Mr Adrian Cochrane-Watson
Mr Gordon Dunne
Ms Megan Fearon
Mr William Humphrey
Mr David McIlveen
Mr Fearghal McKinney
Mr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir
- In Attendance: Mr Jim McManus (Assembly Clerk)
Ms Angela McParland (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Michael Greer (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Briege Mullan (Clerical Officer)
- Apologies: None

The meeting began at 10:11am

1. Apologies

Apologies as noted above.

2. Draft Minutes of Meeting 8th March 2016

Agreed: the Committee agreed the draft minutes of 8th March 2016.

3. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson reminded Members that they had agreed to attend the afternoon session of the STEM event to celebrate National Science and Engineering Week.

The Chairperson informed Members that the briefing scheduled for today by the Energy Savings Trust has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

The Chairperson updated members on the informal meeting held with representatives from ICTU and NIPSA.

Agreed: to ask that the Department keep the incoming Committee updated on progress of the working group that has been established to consider the ACoP for the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.

David McIlveen joined the meeting at 10:13am

4. Oral Briefing from RTÉ: Online Player Service

The representatives joined the meeting at 10:14am

Members received a briefing from Ms Múirne Laffan, Chief Digital Officer, Ms Lucy Campbell, Director, Digital, and Mr Michael Kennedy, Senior Technical Infrastructure Engineer.

Key issues discussed were problems with access to the RTÉ Online Player Service for consumers in Northern Ireland, practical solutions to the issue and co-operation between ISPs and RTÉ.

Máirtín Ó Muilleoir joined the meeting at 10:32am

The representatives left the meeting at 11:05am

Agreed: to forward members the link on the RTÉ website to frequently asked questions in regards ISPs.

5. Matters Arising

Members noted correspondence from the Department regarding the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015.

Members noted correspondence from the Department regarding Funding Bids for InterTradeIreland.

Members considered a response from Cerberus European Capital Advisors LLP.

Agreed: to forward to Cerberus all papers received from Bell & Co.

Members agreed to move to Agenda Item 8

8. Legislation: SR 2016/129 The Electricity (Single Wholesale Market) Order (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Members considered the SR 2016/129 The Electricity (Single Wholesale Market) Order (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.

Agreed: that the Committee for Enterprise, Trade & Investment has considered the SR 2016/129 The Electricity (Single Wholesale Market) Order (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and, subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules' report, has no objection to the Rule.

Agreed: to write to the Examiner of Statutory Rules, who is due to retire, to thank him for his work.

9. Written Briefing from DETI: Export Matters – Enabling the Conditions for Increasing External Sales and Exports in Northern Ireland

Members noted a written briefing from DETI: Export Matters – Enabling the Conditions for Increasing External Sales and Exports in Northern Ireland.

10. Consultation: Proposals for the Freight Containers (Safety Convention) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Members noted the Consultation: Proposals for the Freight Containers (Safety Convention) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.

11. Consultation: Proposals for the Health and Safety (First Aid) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Members noted the Consultation: Proposals for the Health and Safety (First Aid) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.

12. Consultation: Proposals for New Equipment and Protective Systems Intended for Use in Potentially Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 to Implement Directive 2014/34/EU (The ATEX Directive)

Members noted the Consultation: Proposals for New Equipment and Protective Systems Intended for Use in Potentially Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 to Implement Directive 2014/34/EU (The ATEX Directive).

13. Draft End of Mandate (Legacy) Report

Members considered the Draft End of Mandate (Legacy) Report.

Agreed: that the Clerk can add content to the Report outlining the Committee's decision on the Renewables Obligation Closure Order.

Agreed: Members agreed the Committee's End of Mandate (Legacy) Report.

14. Correspondence

Members noted the CBI Report: Success through Smart Choices.

Members noted a Departmental response to the Committee for the Environment.

15. Any Other Business

There were no additional items of business.

16. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The date of the first meeting of the incoming Committee will be advised in the next mandate.

The Chairperson suspended the meeting at 11.17am as the Minister was due to brief the Committee at 11.30am

The meeting resumed at 11:34am with the following Members present:

Patsy McGlone

Conor Murphy

Steven Agnew

Adrian Cochrane-Watson

Gordon Dunne

Megan Fearon

William Humphrey

David McIlveen

Mr Fearghal McKinney

Mr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir

6. Oral Briefing from the Minister: Renewables Energy Policy

The Minister joined the meeting at 11:33am

Members received a briefing from Ms Jonathan Bell, Minister for Enterprise Trade and Investment.

Key issue discussed was the Department Renewable Energy Policy.

The Minister agreed to forward to the Committee a copy of his opening remarks.

Fearghal McKinney joined the meeting at 11.35am

The Chairperson left the meeting at 11:42am

The Deputy Chairperson took the Chair at 11:42am

The Chairperson resumed the Chair at 12:15pm

Megan Fearon left the meeting at 12:31pm

The Minister left the meeting at 12:34pm

7. Legislation: SR 2016 The Renewables Obligation Closure Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

Members considered the SR 2016 The Renewables Obligation Closure Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

Agreed: that the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment has considered SR 2016, The Renewables Obligation Closure Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and, subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules' report, recommends that it be approved by the Assembly.

Mr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir proposed the following motion:

'That the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment has considered SR 2016 the Renewables Obligation Closure Order (NI) 2016 and, subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules' Report, recommends that it be approved by the Assembly.'

The question was put on Mr Ó Muilleoir's proposal.

The Committee divided: Ayes 4; Noes 3; Abstentions 1

AYES

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

NOES

*Mr Patsy McGlone
Mr Fearghal McKinney*

ABSTAIN

Mr Steven Agnew

The motion was carried.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:36pm

Mr Patsy McGlone
Chairperson
Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment

15th March 2016