

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 18 MARCH 2015
SENATE CHAMBER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present:	Ms Michaela Boyle (Chairperson)	
	Mr John Dallat (Deputy Chairperson)	
	Mr Roy Beggs	
	Mr Alex Easton	
	Mr Paul Girvan	
	Mr Sean Rogers	
In Attendance:	Ms Lucia Wilson	(Assembly Clerk)
	Mr Jack Peel	(Assistant Assembly Clerk)
	Mrs Danielle Saunders	(Clerical Supervisor)
	Mr Darren Weir	(Clerical Officer)
Apologies:	Mr Phil Flanagan	
	Mr Daithi McKay	
	Mr Adrian McQuillan	

2.08pm The meeting began in closed session

1. Inquiry into the Cross-Border Broadband Scheme: the Bytel Project – Preparation Session

The Committee conducted a preparation session for the Inquiry into the Cross-Border Broadband Scheme: the Bytel Project.

2.19pm The meeting moved into open session

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr Flanagan, Mr McKay and Mr McQuillan.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 11 March 2015

Agreed: The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

4. Matters Arising

There were no new matters arising.

5. Correspondence

There were no new items of correspondence.

6. Inquiry into the Cross-Border Broadband Scheme: the Bytel Project – Evidence Session

The Committee took oral evidence on the above inquiry from:

- Mr David Sterling, *Accounting Officer, Department of Finance and Personnel*
- Dr Andrew McCormick, *Accounting Officer, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment*
- Mr Eugene Rooney, *Senior Finance Director, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment*
- Mr Pat Colgan, *Chief Executive, Special EU Programmes Body*
- Mr Kieran Donnelly, *Comptroller and Auditor General, Northern Ireland Audit Office*
- Mr Jack Layberry, *Treasury Officer of Accounts, Department of Finance and Personnel*

The witnesses answered a number of questions put by the Committee and agreed to provide additional information in writing.

3.30pm *Mr Dallat left the meeting*

3.51pm *Mr Dallat re-joined the meeting*

3.53pm *Mr Easton left the meeting*

4.06pm *Mr Easton re-joined the meeting*

4.12pm *Mr Rogers left the meeting*

4.25pm *Mr Girvan left the meeting. The Committee lost its decision-making quorum. In the absence of a decision-making quorum proceedings continued in line with Standing Order 49(5).*

4.25pm *Mr Rogers re-joined the meeting - decision making quorum returned*

4.35pm *Mr Girvan re-joined the meeting.*

5.02pm *The Chairperson left the meeting. The Deputy Chairperson took over the Chair.*

5.38pm *The meeting moved into closed session.*

5.52pm *Mr Beggs left the meeting. The Committee lost its decision-making quorum. In the absence of a decision-making quorum proceedings continued in line with Standing Order 49(5).*

5.53pm *Mr Beggs re-joined the meeting - decision making quorum returned.*

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business

8. Date, time and place of next meeting

Members were advised that the Committee will next meet on Wednesday 25th March 2015 at 2.00pm in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

5.54pm *The meeting was adjourned.*

Ms Michaela Boyle
Chairperson, Public Accounts Committee