

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE 2015  
ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Ms Michaela Boyle (Chairperson)  
Mr John Dallat (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Trevor Clarke  
Mr Paul Girvan  
Mr Ross Hussey  
Mr Adrian McQuillan  
Mr Sean Rogers  
Mr Jim Wells

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 Roy Beggs

*2.02pm The meeting began in open session*

#### **1. Apologies**

An apology was received from Mr Beggs.

#### **2. Minutes of the Meeting of 20 May 2015**

*Agreed:* The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

#### **3. Correspondence**

Correspondence received from Carnegie UK Trust

The Committee noted the correspondence from the Carnegie UK Trust.

Correspondence received from Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Belfast

The Committee noted the correspondence from the Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China.

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

There are no new matters arising.

*2.04pm Mr Girvan joined the meeting*

*2.05pm Mr Girvan left the meeting*

*2.05pm The meeting moved into closed session*

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#### **5. Inquiry into Cross Border Broadband Initiative – the Bytel Project – Consideration of Draft Report.**

*2.06pm Mr Girvan re-joined the meeting*

*2.08pm Mr McQuillan joined the meeting*

*Agreed:* The Committee considered its draft report on the above inquiry.

#### **Main Body of Report:**

|                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Paragraphs 1-9   | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 10     | Read, Amended and Agreed |
| Paragraphs 11-12 | Read and Agreed          |
| Recommendation 1 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraphs 13-16 | Read and Agreed          |
| Recommendation 2 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraphs 17-21 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 22     | Read, Amended and Agreed |
| Paragraphs 23-25 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 26     | Read, Amended and Agreed |
| Recommendation 3 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraphs 27-30 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 31     | Read, Amended and Agreed |
| Paragraph 32     | Read and Agreed          |
| Recommendation 4 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 33-38  | Read and Agreed          |
| Recommendation 5 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 39-40  | Read and Agreed          |
| Recommendation 6 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 41-43  | Read and Agreed          |
| Recommendation 7 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 44-47  | Read and Agreed          |
| Recommendation 8 | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraphs 48-49 | Read and Agreed          |

#### **Executive Summary:**

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Paragraphs 1-8 | Read and Agreed |
|----------------|-----------------|

#### **Conclusions:**

|                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Paragraphs 9-16  | Read and Agreed          |
| Paragraph 17     | Read, Amended and Agreed |
| Paragraphs 18-19 | Read and Agreed          |

## **Summary of Recommendations:**

Recommendations 1-8      Read and Agreed

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the minutes, minutes of evidence and correspondence to be included as appendices to the report.

*Agreed:* The Committee ordered the report to be printed

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the report to be launched on Wednesday 1 July 2015 and for a press release to be brought before the Committee on Wednesday 17 June 2015. The Committee agreed that the Press Release should refer to the report of the PAC in the Oireachtas which is to be launched on the same day.

2.21pm    *Mr Wells joined the meeting*

2.24pm    *Mr Rogers left the meeting*

## **6. Inquiry into DRD – The Effectiveness of Public Transport in Northern Ireland**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note DRD's responses to the follow up questions from the evidence session and to take account of these in their report.

2.34pm    *Mr Rogers re-joined the meeting*

## **7. Forward Work Programme**

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

## **8. Any Other Business**

### Committee Visit to the National Assembly for Wales

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that a delegation of Members should visit the PAC in the National Assembly of Wales on 23/24 June 2015.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that the delegation should be limited to one Member per Party.

The Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and Mr Wells confirmed their interest in making the trip. Mr Hussey indicated that he may be able to make the trip if the travel itinerary could be changed to include a return flight via Cardiff airport rather than via Birmingham airport. The Clerk said she would look again at the travel itinerary.

### Review of PAC Protective Markings

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to revise the PAC protective markings for briefing and issues papers as recommended in the Clerk's paper.

**9. Date, time and place of next meeting**

Members were advised that the next meeting of the Committee would be at 2pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

*2.48pm Meeting adjourned*

**Ms Michaela Boyle**  
**Chairperson, Public Accounts Committee**