



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2014
HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE, HILLSBOROUGH

Present:

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Joe Byrne MLA
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mrs Brenda Hale MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA
Mr David McNarry MLA

In attendance:

Mr Paul Carlisle (Clerk to the Committee)
Mr Gavin Ervine (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mrs Tara McClafferty (Clerical Supervisor)
Miss Allison Ferguson (Clerical Officer)

Apologies:

Mr Ross Hussey MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA

09:08am The meeting commenced in closed session

1. Committee Inquiry Update

The Committee received an update on its Inquiry into the Benefits of Cycling to the Economy.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to postpone the publication of its Inquiry report until the completion of the draft bicycle strategy consultation process.

09:10am *The meeting moved into open session*

09:11am *Mrs Hale joined the meeting*

2. Apologies

As above.

3. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson gave Members an overview of the meeting he held with the Chief Executive of NI Water which took place on Thursday 4th September 2014.

4. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 2nd July 2014.

5. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee of Culture, Arts and Leisure to Minister Danny Kennedy regarding NI Water Asset Disposal.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Education regarding Inquiry into Shared/Integrated Education.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding Year-end Surges.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the OFMdFM Committee regarding Inquiry into Building a United Community.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development regarding a Hansard report of a Lough Neagh briefing.

Agreed: The Committee noted an Invite to Chairperson/Deputy Chairperson from the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure to briefing by BBC Director General on 8 October 2014.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Culture, Arts and Leisure regarding Committee queries on its Cycling Inquiry presentation, including Cycling Ireland High Performance Strategy Review and agreed to include this in the Inquiry report.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department of the Environment regarding Committee queries on its Cycling Inquiry presentation and agreed to include this in the Inquiry report.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding queries on Green Investment Bank.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Accessible Transport Strategy Action Plan 2012-15.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on Railway Prioritisation Strategy.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding an SEUPB Consultation.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the Strangford Ferry Project.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on Translink corporate plan and annual accounts.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the new Translink Chief Executive.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on investment in the strategic road network.

9:17am *Mr Ó hOisín MLA joined the meeting*

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding 2013 Drinking Water Quality Report.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Executive approval for Social and Environmental guidance for water and sewerage services.

- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on end of year performance monitoring.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted holding correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on enforcement cameras in bus lanes and public transport contract.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on the public transport contract.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding annual progress report forwarded to the Equality Commission.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on enforcement cameras in bus lanes.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the draft Bicycle Strategy.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding consultation responses to the Off-Street Parking (Functions of District Councils) Bill.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted an invite from the Department for Regional Development to attend a Northern Ireland Transport Networking Event in Brussels on 24th September 2014.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding transfer of Donaghadee Harbour to local authority.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted an invite from Collaboration Northern Ireland to a roundtable discussion on Tuesday 23rd September 2014.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from IMTAC regarding Passenger Transport Executives.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence relating to the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland – Investing Activity Report for July 2014.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence relating to the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland – Investing Activity Report for August 2014.

- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Bruce Harper regarding a modal shift in cycling and agreed to forward to the Department for comment.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Mr S Mawhinney regarding a query on NI Water and agreed to forward to the Department for comment.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Maurice Flynn & Sons regarding DRD suspension of essential maintenance works and agreed to forward to the Department for comment.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted July 2014 North West Region Cross Border Group Newsletter.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted a Consumer Council report on Transport Services funded by the Rural Transport Fund and the Transport Programme for People with Disabilities.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted a Consumer Council report on Integrated Transport Pilot Project: Travel patterns and transport needs in the Dungannon and Cookstown area.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Quarry Products Association regarding a request to brief the Committee and agreed that a meeting would be arranged with the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Road Safety Markings Association regarding a request to meet the Committee and agreed that a meeting would be arranged with the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted Sustrans Active School Travel Programme Summer Term Newsletters 2014.

6. Historic Royal Palaces Briefing: Vision for Hillsborough Castle

09:21am The following representatives joined the meeting

Patricia Corbett – Head of Hillsborough Castle
John Baird – Programme Sponsor, Hillsborough Castle

The representatives presented to the Committee in respect of the work of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

09:42am Mr Easton joined the meeting

09:49am The representatives left the meeting

7. Freight Transport Association Briefing: HGV Traffic in Small Towns and Villages

09:50am The following representatives joined the meeting

Seamus Leheny – Policy and Membership Relations Manager, Freight Transport Association
Nick McCullough – General Manager for Sainsburys Distribution Northern Ireland
Jeff Shaw – Northern Ireland Freight Council Chairman

The representatives presented to the Committee in respect of the work of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

Mrs Hale declared an interest as an MLA for the Lagan Valley constituency

09:58am Mr McAleer left the meeting

10:14am Mr McAleer re-joined the meeting

10:38am The representatives left the meeting

8. Dungiven and Clady Representatives Briefing: HGV Traffic in Small Towns and Villages

10:39am The following representatives joined the meeting

Cllr Maolíosa McHugh – Strabane District Council
Cllr Rory Donaghy – Limavady Borough Council
Barry Lafferty – Secretary Clady Cross Community Development Association

The officials presented to the Committee in respect of the work of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

10:41am Mr Spratt left the meeting

10:41am The Deputy Chairperson assumed the role Chairperson

10:45am Mr Spratt re-joined the meeting and re-assumed the role of Chairperson

10:45am Mr Lynch left the meeting

10:51am Mr McNarry joined the meeting

10:58am Mr Lynch re-joined the meeting

11:17am *The representatives left the meeting*

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister asking for urgent action on the A6 road scheme and ask for further information on the de-coupling of the project.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department of the Environment to ask for an urgent survey on the levels of particulates in and around Dungiven to be carried out and to ask why these levels were not monitored for a significant period of time in 2010 or since then.

9. Department for Regional Development Briefing: HGV Traffic in Small Towns and Villages

11:18am *The following officials joined the meeting*

Kevin Monaghan – Divisional Roads Manager, Transport NI
Graeme Salmon – Senior Traffic Engineer, Transport NI
Andrew Hitchenor – PPTO Civil Engineer, Transport NI
Philip Hamilton – Head of Engineering Services, Transport NI

The officials presented to the Committee in respect of the work of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

11:18am *Mr McAleer left the meeting*

11:18am *Mr Byrne left the meeting*

11:20am *Mr Byrne re-joined the meeting*

11:37am *Mr McAleer re-joined the meeting*

11:45am *Mr Byrne left the meeting*

11:58am *Mr Dallat left the meeting*

12:04pm *Mr McNarry left the meeting*

12:04pm *Mrs Hale left the meeting*

12:04pm *The representatives left the meeting*

10. Subordinate Legislation not Subject to Assembly Procedure

Members noted:

- The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Ballymoney) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The One-Way Traffic (Belfast) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Parking Places on Roads (Electric Vehicles) (Amendment No.3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Waiting Restrictions (Cookstown) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Parking Places (Disabled Persons' Vehicles) (Amendment No.4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Magherafelt) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Waiting Restrictions (Belfast City Centre) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Omagh) (Amendment No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Prohibition of Waiting (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Control of Traffic (Belfast City Centre) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Waiting Restrictions (Craigavon) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Waiting Restrictions (Dungannon) (Amendment No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014

11. SL1: The Level Crossing (McConaghy's) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development is content with the merits of the policy proposal.

12. SL1: The Private Crossings (Signs and Barriers) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development is content with the merits of the policy proposal.

13. SL1: The Drumalla Park, Carnlough (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development is content with the merits of the policy proposal.

14. SL1: The A4 Sligo Road, Belcoo (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development is content with the merits of the policy proposal.

15. SR 2014/201: The Lower Galliagh Road, Londonderry (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2014/201: The Lower Galliagh Road, Londonderry (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014 and has no objection to the rule.

16. SR 2014/199: The U6007 Meadowlands, Downpatrick (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2014/199: The U6007 Meadowlands, Downpatrick (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014 and has no objection to the rule.

12:07pm *Mr Dallat re-joined the meeting*

17. SR 2014/186: The Bus and Coach Passengers Rights and Obligations (Designation of Terminals, Tour Operators and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2014/186: The Bus and Coach Passengers Rights and Obligations (Designation of Terminals, Tour Operators and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 and has no objection to the rule.

18. Any Other Business

None

19. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 17th September 2014 at 09:30am in NI Water Offices, Duncrue Street, Belfast.

12:08pm *The meeting was adjourned*

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Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development
17/09/14