



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

**COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2015  
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**Present:**

Mr Trevor Clarke MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr John Dallat MLA  
Ms Claire Hanna MLA  
Mr Chris Lyttle MLA  
Mr Declan McAleer MLA  
Mr David McNarry MLA  
Mr Cochrane-Watson MLA

**In attendance:**

Mr Jim McManus (Clerk)  
Ms Kate McCullough (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Ms Leanne Johnston (Clerical Supervisor)  
Ms Marianne Doherty (Clerical Supervisor)  
Mr Barry McLernon (Clerical Officer)

*10.20am The meeting commenced in open session*

**1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**2. DRAFT MINUTES: MEETING OF 25 November 2015**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting on 25 November 2015.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

Members noted and considered the correspondence received.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to prepare a response to the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister in relation to the European Commission Work Programme on the European priorities for the Committee for Regional Development.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to return to the correspondence from the Department regarding Ulsterbus, the carriage of school children and wheelchair users at the next meeting.

#### **4. INQUIRY INTO COMMITTEE PRIMARY LEGISLATION ON THE CONSUMER COUNCIL**

The Committee considered the plans to update the Memorandum of Understanding and Service Level Agreement between the Consumer Council for NI and the Department.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to await the final Memorandum of Understanding and Service Level Agreement between the Consumer Council for NI and the Department and the reassurance from the Consumer Council they are content with the final documents.

#### **5. DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFING – BELFAST PUBLIC HIRE TAXIS**

*10.25am Officials joined the meeting*

The Committee received a briefing from Mr Roy Gordon, Traffic Engineer, Transport NI, Mr Kevin Monaghan, Division Roads Manager and Mr Ciarán deBúrca, Director of Transport Projects, all from the Department for Regional Development.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to receive details the objections made by stakeholders during the consultation process on all taxi ranks

*10.42am Mr Cochrane-Watson joined the meeting and declared an interest as family members have interests in some taxi companies.*

*10.59am Mr McAleer joined the meeting*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to schedule a meeting with Belfast Public Hire Taxi Drivers into the Forward Work Programme.

*11.46am Officials left the meeting*

**6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to receive a briefing on the Budget 2016/17 at the meeting on 9 December 2015 if the appropriate budget information is available, as there will not be a briefing on January Monitoring.

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

*11.47am Mr Cochrane-Watson left the meeting.*

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 2 December 2015 at 10am in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

*11.47am The Chairperson adjourned the meeting*

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**Mr Trevor Clarke MLA**  
**Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development**  
**02/12/15**