



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY 2016
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present:

Mr Seán Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA
Mr Stephen Moutray MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA
Mr Daniel McCrossan MLA
Mr David McNarry MLA
Mr Adrian Cochrane-Watson MLA

In attendance:

Mr Trevor Allen (Senior Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Kate McCullough (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Stephen Magee (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Barry McLernon (Clerical Officer)

10.05am: The meeting commenced in open session with Mr Lynch as Chairperson

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Clarke and Mrs Hale.

2. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Daniel McCrossan to the Committee and thanked Ms Claire Hanna for her contribution to the work of the Committee.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Agreed: The Committee agreed to move into closed session to discuss a letter received from the Minister regarding information on unadopted private

sewers and the provision of a report on NI Water's Annual Report and Accounts to the press.

10.10am: Mr McAleer joined the meeting

10.12am: The meeting moved into closed session

Agreed: The Committee agreed to consider the correspondence from the Minister on upadoted private sewers.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to a follow-up meeting with the Minister.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that a Member from each party should attend the meeting with Minister, if they wished.

10.30am: Mr Lyttle joined the meeting

10.36am: Mr Adrian Cochrane-Watson joined the meeting

10.40am: The meeting moved into open session

5. TRANSPORT NI UPDATE ON DEALING WITH THE RECENT FLOODING

10.41am: The following officials joined the meeting:

- Mr David Porter, Acting Chief Executive, Rivers Agency, DARD
- Mr John Irvine, Director of Network Services, Transport NI
- Mr Sean McAleese, Director of Customer Service Delivery, NI Water

The Committee received a briefing on the multi-agency approach to dealing with the recent flooding.

11.16am: Mr McAleer left the meeting

11.20am: Mr McAleer joined the meeting

11.24am: Mr McNarry left the meeting

Agreed: It was agreed that officials would follow up separately with members in relation to a number of constituency-specific issues.

11.30am: Officials left the meeting

6. NI WATER ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

11.30 am: The following officials joined the meeting:

- Ms Sara Venning, Chief Executive, NI Water
- Mr Ronan Larkin, Director of Finance & Regulation, NI Water

11.35am: Mr McNarry joined the meeting
11.49am: Mr McAleer left the meeting
11.43am: Mr Ó hÓisín left the meeting
11.44am: Mr Ó hÓisín joined the meeting
11.49am: Mr McCrossan left the meeting
11.53am: Mr McAleer joined the meeting
11.54am: Mr Ó hÓisín left the meeting
12.04pm: Mr Cochrane-Watson left the meeting
12.08pm: Mr McCrossan joined the meeting
12.10pm: Mr Ó hÓisín joined the meeting
12.13pm: Mr Moutray joined the meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed to receive further clarification on the breakdown of NI Water's contract hire and operating expenses; and also in relation to the derogation from FReM.

12.27pm: Officials left the meeting

12.28pm: Mr Moutray left the meeting

3. DRAFT MINUTES: MEETING OF 9 December 2015

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting on 9 December 2015.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted and considered the correspondence received.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister to ascertain if there are any plans to secure a similar deal as made by the Irish Government and IAG to access Heathrow Airport.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to receive a briefing from the Department on the reports 'Method of Travel to/from School by Publics in NI 2014/15' and 'Cycling and Walking to/from Work in NI 2014/15.'

7. COMMITTEE INQUIRY – THE DEPARTMENT'S PROGRESS AGAINST THE EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT (PfG) TARGETS

The Committee considered the approach to this inquiry.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to take evidence from both Research and the Department on 27 January, and to consider its appropriate approach to this issue.

8-14 SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION NOT SUBJECT TO ASSEMBLY PROCEDURES

The Committee noted the SL1s.

15. STATUTORY RULE – NEGATIVE RESOLUTION

Agreed: The Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2015/407: The Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and subject to the ESR's report has no objection to the rule.

16. STATUTORY RULE – NEGATIVE RESOLUTION

Agreed: The Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2015/342: The Glebe Way, Moira (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 and has no objection to the rule.

12.30pm: Mr McNarry left the meeting

17. DRAFT FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the draft Forward Work Programme including a visit to a number of SuDS sites in Belfast, Bangor and Dundonald.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the Forward Work Programme and agreed option 2 for the visit to the SuD sites.

18. RalSe BRIEFING ON THE BUDGET 2016-2017

12.40pm: The meeting moved into closed session

The Committee received a presentation on the 2016-17 budget from the Assembly's Research and Information Service.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Agreed: The Committee agreed to receive an oral briefing from Translink on the Belfast to Dublin trains and railway line.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee will be on Wednesday 20 January 2016 at 10am in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

13.01pm: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting

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Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development

13 January 2016