



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2016
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present:

Mr Trevor Clarke MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Séan Lynch (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA
Mrs Brenda Hale MLA
Mr Chris Lyttle 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 Oliver Bellew (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Barry McLernon (Clerical Officer)

10.13am: The meeting opened in public session. Mr. Lynch took the Chair.

CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

Members noted an additional meeting on Tuesday 16 February 2016 at 2.30pm in Room 21 to hear from the Minister in relation to the Land Acquisition and Compensation (Amendment) Bill.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

5. METHODS OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT IN NORTHERN IRELAND – DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFING

10.16am: the following officials joined the meeting:

- Mr Andrew Grieve, Head of Cycling Unit, DRD
- Ms Nicola Fisher, Head of Central Statics and Research Branch, DRD

The Committee received a briefing from the Department on a number of survey reports on methods of travel and transport in Northern Ireland.

10.20am: Mr Dallat joined the meeting

10.20am: Mr McAleer joined the meeting

10.23am: Mr McCrossan joined the meeting

10.25am: Mr McAleer left the meeting

10.29am: Mr Lynch left the meeting

10.29am: Mr Clarke joined the meeting and took the Chair.

10.44am: Mrs Hale joined the meeting

10.48am: Mr Dallat left the meeting

10.55am: Mr McAleer joined the meeting

11.01am: Mr Dallat joined the meeting

11.01am: The officials left the meeting

2. DRAFT MINUTES: MEETING OF 3 FEBRUARY 2016

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting on 3 February 2016.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Members noted a response from the Department in relation to the new Department for Infrastructure and equality with exiting promotion lists and income generated by Crumlin Road Gaol.

Members noted a response from the Department regarding the fines incurred previously and at present while the northbound bus lane is being shortened outside the Europa Hotel, Belfast.

The Committee noted a response from the Department in relation to similar Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in Northern Ireland to that of the Herne Hill and Dulwich Flood Alleviation Scheme.

Members noted the proposed timeline for proceeding with the Land Acquisition and Compensation (Amendment) Bill.

Members noted a response from the Law Society of Northern Ireland regarding sewer bonds and the obligations of the purchaser's solicitor.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted a paper from the Committee for Finance and Personnel on the 2015-2016 Spring Supplementary Estimates (SSEs) and Vote on Account 2016-17.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Department on the appointment of a Councillor Member to the Board of Londonderry Port and Harbour Commissioners.

The Committee noted EIS Press Releases in relation to:

- progress on the Holywood / Kinnegar sewerage improvement project;
- the introduction of an HGV weight limit in Hillsborough;
- the commencement of a £62,000 road improvement scheme in Donaghadee; and
- safety initiative for school pupils on buses.

The Committee noted an update from the Department on the commencement of the Belfast Rapid Transit route on the Falls Road and Andersonstown Road, Belfast.

The Committee noted an update received from Belfast Public Hire Taxi Association regarding public taxis ranks in Belfast.

The Committee noted 2 press statements from Translink regarding the rail incident south of Lisburn and the start of an investigation.

The Committee noted a press statement from the Department on the £460,000 improvement scheme for Hillhall Road, Lisburn.

The Committee noted correspondence from a Member of the Public in relation to problems experienced on the Enterprise train.

11.02am: Mr Ó hOisín left the meeting

6. BELFAST CITY AIRPORT AND NOISE – BRIEFING BY BELFAST CITY AIRPORT WATCH

11.02am: The following witnesses joined the meeting:

- Dr Liz Fawcett, Chairperson, Belfast City Airport Watch
- Mr Roger Corry, Chair of BCAW Board and North Down Residents
- Ms Elizabeth Bennett – BCAW Associate Member and East Belfast resident

Mr Clarke and Mr Cochrane-Watson declared an interest in this matter as representatives of the South Antrim constituency within which Belfast International Airport is situated

The witnesses briefed the committee on the Belfast City Airport Watch policy proposals and paper on minimising aircraft noise and boosting Northern Ireland's economy.

11.03am: Mr McNarry left the meeting
11.08am: Mr McAleer left the meeting
11.08am: Mr McCrossan left the meeting
11.14am: Mr McNarry joined the meeting
11.17am: Mr Ó hOisín joined the meeting
11.46am: Mr McAleer joined the meeting
11.47am: Mr Lyttle joined the meeting
11.54am: Mr Dallat left the meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed to receive a briefing on 17 February 2016 from the Department on a number of key issues raised in relation to airports in Northern Ireland.

11.56am: Witnesses left the meeting

7. DRD PROGRESS AGAINST PfG TARGETS – DRAFT ISSUES PAPER

Members considered the draft issues paper on DRD's progress against PfG targets.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the draft issues paper and agreed that it be sent to the Department for Information and published on the Committee's pages of the Assembly's website.

8. SL1s – TO NOTE

Agreed: The Committee was content to note the following SL1:

- The Control of Traffic (A2, Shore Road, Greenisland) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

9. DRAFT FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Agreed: The Committee considered and agreed the forward work programme until the end of the mandate, subject to an amendment to include the additional Departmental briefing on Airports on 17 February 2016.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members noted the change to the venue for the next meeting.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee will be on Wednesday 17 February 2016 at 10am at RADAR NI, Harbour Court, Heron Road, Sydenham Business Park, Belfast.

11.58am: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting

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Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development

22 February 2016