



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## **Committee for Infrastructure**

### **Minutes of Proceedings**

**20 May 2026**

**Meeting Location:** Room 29, Parliament Buildings, Stormont, Belfast

**Present:**

- Mr Peter Martin MLA (Chairperson)
- Mr John Stewart MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
- Mr Stephen Dunne MLA
- Mr Harry Harvey MLA
- Mr Andrew McMurray MLA
- Mr Peter McReynolds MLA
- Mr Maolíosa McHugh MLA
- Mrs Sinéad Ennis MLA

**Via Video Conferencing:** Mr Justin McNulty MLA

**Apologies:** None

**In Attendance:**

- Mr Michael Potter (Assembly Clerk)
- Ms Aoife Keating-Fitzpatrick (Senior Assistant Clerk)
- Mr Philip Pateman (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
- Mr Jonathan Lawless (Clerical Supervisor)
- Mr Oliver Briant (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 10:02 am in public session.



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**1. Apologies**

As above.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Cathal Boylan MLA for his service to the Committee.

The Chairperson welcomed Mrs Sinead Ennis MLA to the Committee.

**2. Declaration of Interests**

None.

**3. Chairperson's Business**

The Chairperson advised Members that he had attended the launch of the Belfast Harbour Masterplan 2025-2050.

**4. Draft Minutes**

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 13 May 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed the minutes of the joint concurrent meeting with the Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026.

**5. Matters Arising**

None.



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## 6. Correspondence

Response from the Minister for Infrastructure to the Committee's correspondence in respect of the resource requirements of statutory consultees within the Department and its Arms-Length Bodies.

**Agreed:** To write to the Department to seek further detail on the number vacant posts and the impact these are having on the Department's ability to achieve targets as statutory consultees and for detail on the percentage of responses within the required timescale for each departmental business area.

Response from the Minister for Infrastructure to the Committee's correspondence requesting further detail in the Department's use of Reclaimed Asphalt Planings (RAP).

**Agreed:** To write to the Minister asking:

- what consideration is being given to introduce a policy for the usage of RAP;
- for a response to the Committee's previous request for an assessment of the impact on the carbon neutrality of the A5 project due to the lack of use of RAP; and
- for the Department's assessment of why RAP is commonly used in the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain but not in Northern Ireland.

**Agreed:** To forward a copy of the Minister's response to Northstone for information.

Response from the Minister for Infrastructure to the Committee's correspondence relating to the collation of data in respect of the pilot scheme for taxis to use bus lanes.

**Agreed:** To write to the Department seeking the indicative timescales for the commencement and completion of the monitoring exercise as part of the pilot.

Response from the Minister for Infrastructure to the Committee's correspondence on the delivery of the York Street Interchange project.



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**Agreed:** To write to the Minister to seek a summary of the options for alternative funding for the York Street Interchange Project as referenced in her response and to seek detail of the £26 million spending that has been incurred to date.

Response from the Minister for Infrastructure to the Committee's correspondence in respect of the role of utility companies within the Draft Road Maintenance Strategy.

**Agreed:** To write to the Minister to confirm that the Committee is content to support the draft strategy, on the basis that its concerns, along with those raised by respondents to the consultation, will be reflected in the final version of the strategy.

Mr Andrew McMurray MLA left the meeting at 10:26 am.

Correspondence from the Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) regarding proposed legislation to prohibit motor vehicles of all types from parking on pedestrian pavements and footpaths.

**Agreed:** To write to the Department seeking a response to MAG's correspondence and to request a summary of the evidence base used to determine excluding motorcycles from pavement parking.

Mr Andrew McMurray MLA re-joined the meeting at 10:29 am.

Correspondence from Indaver requesting to provide evidence to the Committee in respect of the arc21 Residual Waste Treatment Project and Northern Ireland's Strategic Waste Infrastructure.

**Agreed:** That the Clerk liaises with the Clerk to the Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to identify the appropriate committee to consider the correspondence.

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

- Response from the Minister for Infrastructure to the Committee's correspondence in respect of the remaining work and associated timescales for the completion of works at Maydown Bridge, Benburb.



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**7. SL1 – The Road Races (Cairncastle Hill Climb) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Road Races (Cairncastle Hill Climb) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**8. SL1 – The Schools (Part-Time 20mph Speed Limit) (Amendment No. 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Schools (Part-Time 20mph Speed Limit) (Amendment No. 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**9. SL1 – The Waiting Restrictions (Bedford Street, Belfast) (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Waiting Restrictions (Bedford Street, Belfast) (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**10. SL1 – The Control of Traffic (Durham Street, Belfast) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Control of Traffic (Durham Street, Belfast) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.



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**11. SL1 – The Schools (Part-Time 20mph Speed Limit) (Amendment No. 4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Schools (Part-Time 20mph Speed Limit) (Amendment No. 4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**12. SL1 – The Waiting Restrictions (Comber) (Amendment No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Waiting Restrictions (Comber) (Amendment No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**13. SL1 – The Road Traffic (Amendment) (2016 Act) (Commencement No.4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

Mr Peter McReynolds MLA left the meeting at 10:49 am.

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Road Traffic (Amendment) (2016 Act) (Commencement No.4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**14. SL1 – The Motorways Traffic (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration – Formal Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Motorways Traffic (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026.



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**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**15. SL1 – The Motor Vehicles (Specified Restrictions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

Mr Peter McReynolds MLA re-joined the meeting at 10:51 am.

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Motor Vehicles (Specified Restrictions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**16. SL1 – The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Formal Consideration**

Mr John Stewart MLA left the meeting at 10:54 am.

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** The Committee was content with the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**17. SL1 – The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Initial Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026.

Mr John Stewart MLA re-joined the meeting at 10:56 am.

**Agreed:** To note receipt of the SL1 and the proposed Statutory Rule, which will be published as part of the call for views.

**Agreed:** That the SL1 will be considered at the meeting on 10 June 2026.



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**Agreed:** To indicate whether they are content that a briefing from officials is not required at this stage.

**18. SL1 – The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026 – Initial Consideration**

The Committee considered the SL1 – The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026.

**Agreed:** To note receipt of the SL1 and the proposed Statutory Rule, which will be published as part of the call for views.

**Agreed:** That the SL1 will be considered at the meeting on 10 June 2026.

**Agreed:** To indicate whether they are content that a briefing from officials is not required at this stage.

Mrs Sinéad Ennis MLA left the meeting at 10:57 am.

**19. Translink – Budget 2026-29/30 – Oral Evidence**

The representatives joined the meeting at 11:00 am.

Mrs Sinéad Ennis MLA re-joined the meeting.

- Mr Chis Conway, Chief Executive, Translink;
- Mr Ian Campbell, Director of Service Operations, Translink; and
- Mr Ronan O’Doherty, Chief Financial Officer, Translink.

The Committee agreed that the evidence is recorded by Hansard.

A question and answer session followed.

Mr Peter Martin MLA left the meeting at 11:34 am and Mr John Stewart MLA assumed the role of Chairperson.

Mr Peter Martin MLA re-joined the meeting at 11:40 am and resumed the role of Chairperson.



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The representatives left the meeting at 12:10 pm.

**Agreed:** To write to the Minister for Infrastructure to express the Committee's concerns around Translink's financial position and potential impact of service reductions.

The Committee suspended at 12:15pm.

The Committee resumed at 12:30 pm with the following Members present:

Present:

- Mr Peter Martin MLA (Chairperson)
- Mr John Stewart MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
- Mr Stephen Dunne MLA
- Mr Harry Harvey MLA
- Mr Andrew McMurray MLA
- Mr Peter McReynolds MLA
- Mr Maolíosa McHugh MLA
- Mrs Sinéad Ennis MLA

Via Video Conferencing: Mr Justin McNulty MLA

## **20. Implementation of the Reservoirs Act (Northern Ireland) 2015**

The Committee considered a summary of the evidence it has received as part of its ongoing scrutiny of the proposed statutory rules that seek to further implement provisions within the Reservoirs Act (Northern Ireland) 2015.

**Agreed:** To write to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency to seek its views on any unintended consequences arising from the proposals for Statutory Rules.

**Agreed:** To commission legal advice on a range of issues arising from the proposed Statutory Rules.



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Mr Harry Harvey MLA left the meeting at 12:46 pm.

The Committee moved into closed session at 12:47 pm.

**21. Water, Sustainable Drainage and Flood Management Bill – Further Deliberations**

Mr Maolíosa McHugh MLA left the meeting at 12:53 pm.

The Committee noted and considered a response from the Minister in respect of the issues raised by the Committee in the course of its scrutiny of the Bill and the potential scope for amendments to better define some of the clauses within the Bill.

**Agreed:** To commission legal advice and receive an oral briefing from the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

**22. Forward Work Programme**

The Committee considered the draft Forward Work Programme.

**Agreed:** To proceed with the scheduled evidence as set out in the draft Forward Work Programme and to reflect to any changes agreed during the meeting.

**23. Any Other Business**

None.

**24. Date, Time and Place of next meeting**

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, 27 May 2026 at 10:00 am in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.



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The meeting adjourned at 1:31 pm.

**Mr Peter Martin**  
**Chairperson, Committee for Infrastructure**

**27 May 2026**