



**COMMITTEE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE  
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2016**

**THE SENATE CHAMBER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

- Present: Mr William Humphrey (Chairperson)
- Mr George Robinson MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Ms Kellie Armstrong MLA  
Mr Alex Easton MLA  
Mr Paul Girvan MLA  
Mr Declan McAleer MLA  
Mr Eamonn McCann MLA  
Mr Daniel McCrossan MLA  
Mr Fra McCann MLA  
Mrs Jenny Palmer MLA
- In Attendance: Mrs Cathie White (Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Vincent Gribbin (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Johnny Lawless (Clerical Supervisor)  
Mrs Sharon Young (Clerical Officer)  
Mr Daniel Lowe (Legislative Studies and Practice Student)
- Apologies: Mr Justin McNulty MLA

*10:00 am The meeting opened in public session.*

**1. Apologies**

Apologies are detailed above.

## **2. Chairpersons Business**

- The Chairperson reminded Members that there will be a Committee meeting on 5 October 2016 after the visit to Connswater Community Greenway.
- The Committee considered press releases regarding the Committee's visit to the Connswater Community Greenway next week and welcoming the Minister's introduction of an online portal for applying for a Blue Badge.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to issue the Blue Badges press release and to issue the Connswater Community Greenway press release next week along with a photograph of the visit .

*10:02 am Mr George Robinson joined the meeting.*

## **3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2016**

*Agreed:* The minutes of the meeting on 21 September 2016 were agreed.

## **4. Matters Arising**

- The Committee considered lists of possible stakeholders to invite to the Committee Road Safety event on 23 November 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite the Chief Constable, the Minister for DAEFRA and the Minister for Justice to the event.

- The Committee noted that its informal meeting with Departmental officials to discuss the budget process is scheduled for Tuesday 11 October 2016 from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that lunch will be provided.

*10:04 am Mr Eamonn McCann joined the meeting.*

## **5. Correspondence**

- Correspondence from Carla Lockhart MLA regarding the renewal of Blue Badges.

*10:06 am Mr Daniel McCrossan joined the meeting.*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Minister asking him to keep the issue under review and to keep the Committee informed of any changes to the GB legislation.

- Correspondence from Minister for Infrastructure on his Oral Statement on Inland Waterways.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Correspondence from Martin Young regarding the Translink Annual Report and Accounts.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the correspondence and forward it to Translink for comment on the points raised.

- Departmental update on the Belfast Rapid Transit Scheme.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the update.

- Correspondence from the Committee for the Executive Office providing a paper on After the EU Referendum.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

- Correspondence from the Committee for the Executive Office regarding the Draft Programme for Government 2016-2021.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the correspondence and request a Departmental briefing on the Programme for Government on 12 October 2016.

- Correspondence from the Northern Ireland Assembly EU Affairs Manager providing the EU Matters Newsletter – Issue 04/2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to note the correspondence.

## **6. Subordinate Legislation – SL1's Not Subject to Assembly Proceedings**

- The Committee considered the following SL1's which are not subject to any Assembly proceedings.
  - SL1 – The Parking and waiting Restrictions (Newtownabbey) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
  - SL1 – The Cycle Routes (Amendment No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

## **7. Subordinate Legislation – SR's Not Subject to Assembly Proceedings**

- The Committee considered the following SRs which are not subject to any Assembly proceedings.

- SR 2016-341 The Parking Places (Disabled Persons' Vehicles) (Amendment No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
- SR 2016-342 The Loading Bays on Roads (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

**8. SL1 – The Church Street Mullagh Road, Maghera (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.**

The Committee considered proposals for The Church Street Mullagh Road, Maghera (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that it was content to note the proposal for the Statutory Rule.

**9. SR 2016-318 The Gilpinstown Road (U1401) Lurgan (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-318 The Gilpinstown Road (U1401) Lurgan (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

**10. SR 2016-320 The Rann Road/Annacloy Road, Downpatrick (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-320 The Rann Road/Annacloy Road, Downpatrick (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

*10:11 am Mr Fra McCann left the meeting.*

**11. SR 2016-321 The Wandsworth Court Belfast (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-321 The Wandsworth Court Belfast (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

*10:11 am Mr Fra McCann re-joined the meeting.*

**12. SR 2016-322 The B122 Murley Road, Fivemiletown (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-322 The B122 Murley Road, Fivemiletown (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

**13. SR 2016-323 The Old Road Off U1040 Lough Lane, Lurgan (Abandonment) Order 2016**

*Agreed:* That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-323 The Old Road Off U1040 Lough Lane, Lurgan (Abandonment) Order 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

**14. SR 2016-324 The Fortwilliam Parade, Belfast (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* That the Committee for Infrastructure has considered SR 2016-324 The Fortwilliam Parade, Belfast (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and has no objection to the rule.

**15. Ministerial Briefing – Departmental Priorities & The Term Ahead**

*10:14 am The Minister and his officials joined the meeting.*

The Committee was briefed by Mr Chris Hazzard, Minister for Infrastructure, Mr Peter May, Permanent Secretary, Mr John McGrath, Deputy Secretary and Dr Andrew Murray, Deputy Secretary.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

*Agreed:* The Departmental officials agreed to provide the Committee with details of how much had been spent and how much had to be returned of the £13 million allocated for the A5/A6 roads.

*11:15 am Mr Paul Girvan joined the meeting.*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite Minister Hazard to attend the Committee Road Safety Event.

*11:22 am The Minister and his officials left the meeting.*

**16. Briefing from SONI - North South Interconnector**

*11:22 am The representatives joined the meeting.*

The Committee was briefed Mr Robin McCormick, General Manager, Mr John Fitzgerald, Director, Grid Development & Interconnection and Ms Natasha Sayee, Senior Lead Public Affairs Specialist.

*11:38 am Mr William Humphrey left the meeting.*

*11:38 am Mr George Robinson took the Chair.*

*11:42 am Mr William Humphrey re-joined the meeting*

*11:42 am Mr William Humphrey resumed the Chair.*

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

*12:02 pm Mr Alex Easton left the meeting.*

*12:06 pm Mr Fra McCann left the meeting.*

*12:10 pm Mr Declan McAleer left the meeting.*

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to provide SONI's briefing papers and a copy of the Hansard of the briefing to the Committee for the Economy for information.

*12:15 pm The representatives left the meeting.*

#### **17. Departmental Briefing - A8 Dual Carriageway - FP McCann Judgement**

*12:15 pm The Departmental official joined the meeting.*

The Committee was briefed by Mr Pat Doherty, Director of Engineering.

*12:17 pm Mr Fra McCann re-joined the meeting.*

*12:19 pm Mr Declan McAleer re-joined the meeting.*

*12:21 pm Mr Daniel McCrossan left the meeting.*

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

*12:36 pm The Departmental official left the meeting.*

#### **18. Briefing from Assembly Research and Information Service - Road Safety**

*12:36 pm The research officers joined the meeting.*

The Committee was briefed by Ms Barbara Love, Research Officer and Mr Desmond McKibbin, Research Officer.

*Agreed:* The research officers agreed to provide the Committee with further information on a number of issues.

*12:38 pm Mr Alex Easton re-joined the meeting.*

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

*12:45 pm Mr Fra McCann left the meeting.*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Infrastructure regarding the recent legislative changes in Great Britain which increased the penalties for anyone found to be using a mobile phone while driving.

*13:03 pm The research officers left the meeting.*

The Committee discussed the arrangements for the Road Safety Stakeholder Event.

## **19. Draft Forward Work Programme**

The Committee considered the draft Forward Work Programme for Autumn 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the revised Forward Work Programme.

*1:10 pm Mrs Jenny Palmer left the meeting.*

## **20. Any Other Business**

None.

## **21. Date, time and place of next meeting**

The Committee noted that the next meeting should be held on Wednesday, 5 October 2016 at 12:30 am in The Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

*1:10 pm The Chairperson adjourned the meeting.*

**Mr William Humphrey MLA**  
**Chairperson, Committee for Infrastructure**

**12 October 2016**