



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY 30TH JANUARY 2013
ROOM 21

Present:

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Stewart Dickson MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mr Ross Hussey MLA
Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA
Mr Ian McCrea MLA
Mr David McNarry MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

In attendance:

Mr Paul Carlisle (Clerk to the Committee)
Mr Nathan McVeigh (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Tara McKee (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Alison Ferguson (Clerical Officer)

Apologies:

Mr Seán Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

10.30am The meeting commenced in public session

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Chairperson's Business

None.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 23rd January 2013.

4. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment regarding a research paper on UK Guarantees.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure regarding Mencap briefing on transport issues.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding EU briefing papers.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department of Regional Development regarding the Coleraine to Londonderry rail works.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department of Regional Development regarding the launch of Active Travel Strategy.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department of Regional Development regarding Water NI conference.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department of Education regarding bus licensing issues.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding Activity Report for the Department of Regional Development.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment regarding City of Culture 2013.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Community Transport Association regarding the Committee Inquiry.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department of Education regarding the Committee Inquiry into the Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport Options.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from various Health Trusts regarding the Committee Inquiry into the Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport Options.

Agreed: The Committee noted suggested questions for the briefings in relation to the Committee Inquiry.

10.34am Mr Dickson joined the meeting

5. Department of Health Social Services and Public Safety: The Inquiry into Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport in Northern Ireland

Mr Easton declared an interest as Assembly private secretary to the Health Minister

10.35am The following representatives joined the meeting:

Jackie Johnston, Director of Secondary Care, DHSSPS

Daniel Kelly, Assistant Director of Secondary Care, Cancer Services, Diagnostics and Specialist Drugs Unit, DHSSPS

Brian McNeill, Director of Operations, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service

Mandy Magee, Transport Services Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

The representatives presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

10.36am Mrs Kelly joined the meeting

10.36am Mr McAleer joined the meeting

10.41am Mr McCrea joined the meeting

11.26am The representatives left the meeting

Agreed: The Committee would write to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety asking for a breakdown of costs to the Trusts as a result of missed appointments, especially those related to transport issues and asking how many missed appointments were as a result of transport issues.

Agreed: The Committee would write to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety asking for a breakdown of the cost per passenger of journeys made by patients of the health service.

Agreed: The Committee would write to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety asking for information on the policy that the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service has in relation to the use of its vehicles out of hours for non-emergency patient transportation.

Agreed: The Committee would write to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety asking for an update on the Enniskillen to Altnagelvin project.

Agreed: The Committee would write to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety asking why audit reports from 1995 and 2005 containing recommendations for the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety appear to have been ignored.

Agreed: The Committee would write to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety asking why no briefing paper for today's presentation was provided.

6. Department of Education: The Inquiry into Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport in Northern Ireland

11.28am The following officials joined the meeting:

Alan McMullan, Head of School Access Team
Gary Montgomery, Deputy Head of School Access Team
Dale Hanna, Transport Officer, SEELB

The officials presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

11.33am Mr McNarry left the meeting

11.38am Mr McNarry rejoined the meeting

11.49am Mr Hussey left the meeting

11.56am Mr Hussey rejoined the meeting

12.01pm Mrs Kelly left the meeting

12.13pm Mr McAleer left the meeting

12.14pm Mr Dickson left the meeting

12.14pm Mr Ó hOisín left the meeting

12.16pm Mr Ó hOisín rejoined the meeting

12.18pm Mr Dallat left the meeting

12.18pm Mr McCrea left the meeting

12.18pm *The officials left the meeting*

Agreed: The Committee would write to the Department of Education asking for a breakdown of transport costs of pupils including the costs of providing assistants.

Agreed: The Committee would write to the Department of Education asking why no briefing paper for today's presentation was provided.

7. Department of Regional Development: The Inquiry into Better Use of Public and Community Sector Funds for the Delivery of Bus Transport in Northern Ireland

12.19pm *The following officials joined the meeting:*

Sean Johnston, Transport Projects Division
Ciaran Doran, Director of Transport Finance and Governance
Stephen McKillop, Head of Operational Delivery Branch

The officials presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

12.20pm *Mr Dickson rejoined the meeting*

12.20pm *Mr Easton left the meeting*

12.24pm *Mr McAleer rejoined the meeting*

12.26pm *Mr McCrea rejoined the meeting*

12.37pm *Mr Hussey left the meeting*

12.55pm *Mr McNarry left the meeting*

1.01pm *The officials left the meeting*

8. Subordinate Legislation not subject to Assembly Procedure

Members noted:

- The Urban Clearways (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

9. SL1: The Limestone Road, Area (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

Members were content with the merits of the following policy proposal:

- The Limestone Road, Area (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

10. SR 2012/448 The Greystone Road, Limavady (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2012/448 The Greystone Road, Limavady (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012 and has no objection to the Rule.

11. Any Other Business

The Chairperson reminded members that the Committee has a study visit to Exeter and Cardiff on 13th/14th February 2013 and asked that Members indicated if they were attending the visit to allow travel and accommodation to be confirmed.

12. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 20^h February 2013 at 10.30am in Room 21.

1.06pm The meeting was adjourned

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Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development
20/02/13