



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY 2013
ROOM 21

Present:

Mr Sean Lynch (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Stewart Dickson MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mr Ian McCrea MLA
Mr David McNarry MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

In attendance:

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

Apologies:

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Ross Hussey MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA

10:32am The meeting commenced in open session.

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Chairperson's Business

None.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 26th June 2013.

4. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the OFMdFM Committee regarding an EU proposal in relation to establishing a framework on the market access to port services and the financial transparency of ports and agreed to forward to the Department for comment.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Education regarding the Safer Routes to School Initiative.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding the Public Service Pensions Bill and agreed to forward to the Department for comment, making reference to NI Water and Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company pension schemes.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on the Park and Ride Strategic Delivery Programme and the Belfast Rapid Transit project.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on the Blue Badge Scheme consultation.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the Marco Polo Programme.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence relating to the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland – Investing Activity Report.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Conor Doyle regarding Translink student fares and agreed to forward to the Department for comment.

Agreed: The Committee noted a press release from QPANI regarding the June Monitoring Round announcement.

5. North West 200 and 2&4 Wheeled Motorsport Steering Group Briefing: Proposed Changes to Road Racing Legislation

10:37am The following representatives joined the meeting

Mervyn Whyte – Event Director, North West 200
Gerard McAuley – Operations Manager, North West 200
Kieran Doherty – Corporate Director of Environmental Services, Coleraine Borough Council
John O'Neill – 2&4 Wheeled Motorsport Steering Group

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

Mr Ó hOisín declared an interest as an MLA of the constituency.

Mr Dallat declared an interest as an MLA of the constituency.

11:04am Mr McCrea joined the meeting

Mr McCrea declared an interest as a motor racing fan.

11:29am The representatives left the meeting

Agreed: That the Committee would write to the North West 200's principal sponsors, Vauxhall, to thank them for their continued support of the event and assuring them that the Committee fully supports the proposed changes to the Road Racing Legislation.

6. Department for Regional Development Briefing: Proposed Changes to Road Racing Legislation

11:30am The following officials joined the meeting

David Millar – Roads Service Lands and Legislation Unit, DRD
Gerry Anketell – Transport Policy Strategy and Legislation Division, DRD

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

11:51am The officials left the meeting

Agreed: That the Committee would write to the Department to ask that further meetings take place with race promoters in the near future to work out proposals around spectator charging.

Agreed: That the Committee would write to the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure and the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment to inform them that the Committee fully supports the proposed changes to Road Racing Legislation.

Agreed: That the Committee would write to the Department to request a copy of the consultation responses as the Department receive them to ensure the Committee is kept fully informed regarding the legislation.

11:52am The Committee adjourned.

12:11pm The Committee recommenced in open session

The following Members were present: Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson), Mr John Dallat MLA, Mr Stewart Dickson MLA, Mr Alex Easton MLA and Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA.

7. Subordinate Legislation not Subject to Assembly Procedure

Members noted:

- The Waiting Restrictions (Bangor) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

8. SL1: The Rail Vehicles Accessibility Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development is content with the merits of the policy proposal.

9. SL1: The Rail Vehicles Accessibility (Application for Exemption Orders) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development is content with the merits of the policy proposal.

Agreed: That the Committee would write to the Department to ask for further information on what vehicles are unlikely to fully comply with the Technical Specification for Inoperability for Persons with Reduced mobility (PRM TSI) and Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations by 1st January 2020.

10. SR 2013/156: The Brucevale Park, Belfast (Stopping-Up) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2013/156: The Brucevale Park, Belfast (Stopping-Up) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013 and has no objection to the rule.

11. SR 2013/157: The Knocksallagh Green, Greenisland (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2013/157: The Knocksallagh Green, Greenisland (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013 and has no objection to the rule.

12. SR 2013/158: The Glenvarna Walk, Newtownabbey (Footpath) (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

Agreed: That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2013/157: The Glenvarna Walk, Newtownabbey (Footpath) (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013 and has no objection to the rule.

13. Department for Regional Development Briefing: Savings Delivery Plans

12:19am The following officials joined the meeting

Deborah McNeilly – Director of Finance, DRD
Gareth McAllister – Finance Division, DRD

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

12:35pm The officials left the meeting

Agreed: That the Committee would write to the Department to ask for further information on the formula used to calculate how Translink are reimbursed for concessionary fares.

14. Any Other Business

Mr Dallat raised the matter of the campaign to install a footpath at Ballerena Train Station.

Agreed: That the Committee would write to the Department to support this campaign and ask that the Department take this project forward as quickly as possible.

The Deputy Chairperson raised the issue of FOI requests received during summer recess.

Agreed: That the Committee would delegate authority to the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson to submit views on releasing or withholding information in any non-routine/contentious FOI requests.

The Deputy Chairperson raised the issue of a Committee strategic planning day at the start of the next session and informed Members that they will receive further information on this over recess.

15. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 10th July 2013 at 10:30am in Room 30.

12:19pm The meeting was adjourned

.....
Mr Sean Lynch MLA
Deputy Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development
10/07/13