



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

**COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013**  
**ROOM 21**

**Present:**

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Sean Lynch (Deputy Chairperson)  
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

**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 John Dallat MLA  
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

*10:35am      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 10<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

#### **4. Correspondence**

Members noted the correspondence received.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding Savings Delivery Plans.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding an update on its Savings Delivery Plans.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development and Mr and Mrs Bannon regarding the Door 2 Door service.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development to regarding compensation values for compulsory acquisition.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development and Mr Conor Doyle regarding discounted student travel.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted Correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding its response to the Airport Noise Action Plan consultation.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the Public Service Pensions Bill 2013.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding proposed Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 and Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Application for Exemption Orders) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the NITHCO Annual Report and Accounts.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Service Agreement with NITHCO for the provision of public passenger transport services.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the Drinking Water Inspectorate's 2012 Water Quality Report.

- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the summary of responses to the Future Railway Investment Consultation paper.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Bellarena Railway Station.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the Committee's Inquiry into Comprehensive Transport Delivery Structures.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding 2012-2013 Annual Progress Report on Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Section 49a of the Disability Discrimination Order 2006.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from OFMdFM regarding funding for Audio-Visual Information on buses and agreed to forward a copy to Guide Dogs NI for information.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department of the Environment regarding revised cabotage guidance.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence regarding the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland – Investing Activity Reports for July 2013 and August 2013.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Hunter regarding Translink.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence the Consumer Council NI regarding transport services funded by the Rural Transport Fund and the Transport Programme for People with Disabilities.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from NILGA regarding an update on prioritisation audit of unadopted roads in private developments.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Consumer Council regarding consumer views on encouraging modal shift and improving public passenger information.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the Framework for Co-operation – Spatial Strategies for Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding planned changes to the Blue Badge Scheme.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Irish Football Association requesting to brief the Committee on the new IFA stadium project and agreed that the clerk liaise with their representative to arrange a briefing.

## **5. Translink Briefing: Delayed Start to Phase 2 of the Londonderry Rail Scheme**

*10:42am The following representative joined the meeting*

Clive Bradberry – Infrastructure Executive, Translink

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

*10:52am Mrs Kelly left the meeting*

*10:54am Mr Lynch left the meeting*

*10:55am Mr McCrea left the meeting*

*10:56am Mr Lynch re-joined the meeting*

*10:56am Mrs Kelly re-joined the meeting*

*10:59am Mr Easton joined the meeting*

*11:23am The representatives left the meeting*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to Translink to request further information on its long term infrastructural planning for rail and buses and ask what costings are included in the procurement process for contractors based in mainland UK.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request a briefing from the Departmental official who sits on the Londonderry Rail Scheme project board at next week's meeting.

## **6. Northern Ireland Water Briefing: Annual Report and Accounts 2012/2013**

*11:24am The following representatives joined the meeting*

Sara Venning – Acting Chief Executive, NI Water

Ronan Larkin – Finance Director, NI Water

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

*11:42am Mrs Kelly left the meeting*

*11:46am Mr Hussey left the meeting*

*11:50am Mr Hussey re-joined the meeting*

*12:00pm Mr Hussey left the meeting*

*12:13pm Mr Easton left the meeting*

*12:18pm Mr McCrea re-joined the meeting*

*12:19pm Mr McNarry left the meeting*

*12:23pm Mr McNarry re-joined the meeting*

*12:22pm The officials left the meeting*

## **7. Committee Strategic Planning – Prioritisation of Objectives**

*Agreed:* The Committee noted a summary report of the Strategic Planning Day held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 and agreed to forward details to the Department for information.

## **8. Subordinate Legislation not Subject to Assembly Procedure**

*Members noted:*

- The One-Way Traffic (Carrickfergus) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Waiting Restrictions (Holywood) (Amendment No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Cycle Routes (Amendment No.4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Waiting Restrictions (Dungannon) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Parking Spaces (Disabled Persons' Vehicles) (Amendment No.5) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

## **9. SL1: The Lisburn Road, Ballynahinch (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013**

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

**10. SL1: The Frederick Street, Belfast (Footpath) (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013**

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

**11. SL1: The C338 (Unnamed Road), Moneymore, Newry (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013**

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

**12. SR 2013/188: The Frome Street, Belfast (Footpaths) (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013**

*Agreed:* That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2013/188: The Frome Street, Belfast (Footpaths) (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013 and has no objection to the rule.

**13. Any Other Business**

Mr McCrea informed the Committee that this would be his last meeting and thanked the Chairperson for his hard work and leadership. The Chairperson thanked Mr McCrea for his contribution to the Committee and wished him all the best for his new role.

*Agreed:* The Committee would write to Mr McCrea to thank him for his contribution to the Committee.

**14. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at 10:30am in Room 21.

12:29pm      *The meeting was adjourned*

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**Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA**  
**Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development**  
**18/09/13**