



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2013
ROOM 21

Present:

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Joe Byrne MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mrs Brenda Hale MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy 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 Ross Hussey MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA

10:02am The meeting commenced in closed session.

The Committee considered legal advice regarding correspondence from Dr Alan Lennon.

10:10am Mrs Hale joined the meeting

10:10am Mr Easton joined the meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to Dr Alan Lennon to inform him that the Committee is content for the Commissioner for Public Appointments to consider the allegations.

10:12am *The meeting recommenced in open session*

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson gave Members an overview of the meeting he and the Deputy Chairperson had with representatives of Unite the Union, which took place before today's meeting.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 6th November 2013.

4. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on Park and Ride facilities and agreed to write to the Department to ask who owns these Park and Ride sites. Also ask who owns the Park and Ride facility in Toomebridge, adjacent to the Elk Inn.

Agreed: The Committee noted a copy of Committee Review Group report into the Committee System of the NI Assembly.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the consultation on Draft Social and Environmental Guidance for Water and Sewerage Services 2015-2021 and agreed to write to the Department to request a synopsis of responses to this consultation when available.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on Translink's presentation on winter preparedness.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on SR 2013/233.

- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the 'Lisburn Road – Tidal Flow Project' and agreed to write to the Department to support the introduction of this Experimental Traffic Control Scheme.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted a copy of the Department for Regional Development's Equality Unit Bi-Annual Report.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted a copy of IMTAC report on Walking Routes in Bangor Town Centre.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Mr & Mrs Bannon regarding Door 2 Door Service.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Transport Salaried Staffs' Association requesting a meeting with the Committee regarding the Report into Comprehensive Transport Delivery Structures. The Committee agreed to write to decline this request and inform them that the Committee will seek a written briefing on receipt of the Department's response.

5. Northern Ireland Water Briefing: Winter Readiness 2013/14

10:22am The following officials joined the meeting

Sara Venning – Interim Chief Executive, NI Water

Alec McQuillan – Acting Director of Customer Service Delivery, NI Water

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

10:51am Mr Lynch left the meeting

10:55am Mrs Hale left the meeting

11:03am Mr McCarthy left the meeting

11:05am The officials left the meeting

- Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to Department to request that the elected representative emergency contact number for NI Water is forwarded to MLA's and MP's.

6. Roads Service Briefing: Winter Readiness 2013/14

11:06am The following officials joined the meeting

Dr Andrew McMurray – Chief Executive, Transport NI, DRD
John Irvine – Director of Network Services, Transport NI, DRD

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

11:07am Mrs Hale re-joined the meeting

11:08am Mr Lynch re-joined the meeting

11:10am Mr Easton left the meeting

11:26am Mr Byrne left the meeting

11:26am Mr Easton re-joined the meeting

11:33am Mr Ó hOisín left the meeting

11:39am The officials left the meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request that the elected representative emergency contact number for Roads Service is forwarded to MLA's and MP's.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request that the Department commence negotiations on salting of footways with the proposed new local government bodies as soon as is possible.

7. Subordinate Legislation not Subject to Assembly Procedure

Members noted:

- The Waiting Restrictions (Bangor) (Amendment No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Waiting Restrictions (Bushmills) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

8. Any Other Business

9. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 20th November 2013 at 10:00am in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

11:39am *The meeting was adjourned*

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Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development
20/11/13