



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2013
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present:

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Joe Byrne MLA
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mrs Brenda Hale MLA
Mr Ross Hussey MLA
Mr Declan McAleer 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)
Mr George McClelland (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Alison Ferguson (Clerical Officer)

Apologies:

Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

10:05am 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 meetings of 2nd December 2013 and 4th December 2013.

10:08am *Mr Ó hOisín joined the meeting*

4. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding engagement with voluntary and community groups.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Task and Finish Pilot Scheme on Car Parking.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from Pat Ramsey MLA regarding the introduction of the Road Traffic (Speed Limits) Bill and agreed to invite Mr Ramsey to brief the Committee at a forthcoming meeting.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from OFMdFM Committee regarding competitive European funding for Northern Ireland.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development to the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment regarding UK Green Investment Bank.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from NI Water regarding its annual Customer Care Newsletter.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland regarding archaeological claims settlement on road schemes in Northern Ireland and agreed to invite representatives from the Institute to brief the Committee at its meeting on 15th January 2013. Members also agreed to invite officials from Roads Service to brief the Committee on this issue at the same meeting.

5. Utility Regulator Briefing: Cost and Performance Report for NI Water for PC10

10:09am *The following representatives joined the meeting*

Jo Aston – Director of Water Regulation, NI Authority for Utility Regulation
John Mills – Network Manager, NI Authority for Utility Regulation

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

10:12am Mrs Hale joined the meeting

10:12am Mr Easton joined the meeting

10:12am Mr McAleer joined the meeting

10:25am Mr McNarry joined the meeting

10:34am Mr Dallat left the meeting

10:53am Mr Dallat re-joined the meeting

10:53am Mr Easton left the meeting

10:55am Mr Easton re-joined the meeting

11:00am The representatives left the meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Utility Regulator to ask for a list of customer complaints that fall within the remit of the Utility Regulator for Water and Sewerage Services.

6. Department for Regional Development Briefing: January Monitoring Round

11:01am The following officials joined the meeting

Deborah McNeilly – Acting Deputy Secretary, Finance, Resources and Water Policy, DRD
John McNeill – Finance Director, DRD
Stewart Barnes – Head of Financial Planning and Management Branch, DRD

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

11:02am Mr Byrne left the meeting

11:08am Mr Ó hOisín left the meeting

11:22am Mr McAleer left the meeting

11:37am *Mr McAleer re-joined the meeting*

11:46am *The officials left the meeting*

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Finance and Personnel advising him that the Committee is supportive of the departmental bids, with the exception of the bid for £1.5m for works in bus stations and workshops.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request further information on the review of the Translink Corporate Plan.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request further information on NITHCO's assets and surplus assets.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request copies of the health and safety reports for the bus stations and workshops that will benefit from this latest monitoring round bid.

7. Subordinate Legislation not Subject to Assembly Procedure

Members noted:

- The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Belfast) (Amendment No. 4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Parking Places (Disabled Persons' Vehicles) (Amendment No. 7) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Roads (Speed Limit) (No. 4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Waiting Restrictions (Bangor) (Amendment No. 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

8. Any Other Business

9. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 8th January 2014 at 10:00am in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

11:49am *The meeting was adjourned*

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Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development
08/01/14