



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

**COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2014**  
**ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**Present:**

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Alex Easton MLA  
Mrs Brenda Hale 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)  
Ms Tara McKee (Clerical Supervisor)  
Ms Alison Ferguson (Clerical Officer)

**Apologies:**

Mr John Dallat MLA  
Mr Ross Hussey MLA  
Mr Joe Byrne MLA

*10:13am      The meeting commenced in open session*

**1. Apologies**

As above.

*10:15am      Mr McNarry joined the meeting*

## **2. Chairperson's Business**

The Chairperson gave Members an overview of the recent Committee visit to Brussels, when a delegation attended the TEN-T Information Day.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask what, if any, applications it and/or its Arm's Length Bodies intends making.

## **3. Draft Minutes**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

## **4. Correspondence**

Members noted the correspondence received.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding an update on the progress of unadopted roads and agreed to write to the Department to request that NAMA is contacted, through the Executive, to check if they have any plans to partially finance unadopted roads in Northern Ireland.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding his intention to make a statement on the NSMC Transport Sector Meeting on Monday 13th January 2014 and agreed to arrange a follow-up meeting with Members of the Transport Committee in the Oireachtas in relation to areas of mutual interest.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister for Finance and Personnel regarding January Monitoring Round.

*10:21am Mrs Hale joined the meeting*

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding post project evaluations and agreed to forward to the Department for comment on its two outstanding PPEs.

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

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the OFMdFM Committee regarding the EC Work Programme 2014 and agreed to issue a response on

the Committee's EC Work Programme 2014 (as per the Committee Strategic Plan) and a summary of its work on 2013 priorities.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Environment regarding its Inquiry into Wind Energy and agreed to submit a response to this Inquiry. Members also agreed to write to the Department to ask if there are any existing wind turbines situated on land in the ownership of DRD.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding the Budget 2015/16 process and agreed to request a Departmental briefing on this when the process has been agreed by the Executive.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding linkages to the proposed redevelopment of Windsor Park, Belfast.

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

*10:28am* *Mr Easton joined the meeting*

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding emergency contact details and arrangements for salting of footways.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding Park and Ride facilities and agreed to write to the Department to ask for the policy to be re-visited and that all sites should have a specific valuation. Members also agreed to ask the Department for further information on the facility at the Elk Bar, Toomebridge.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding public information events for Belfast Rapid Transit.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding a meeting between Departmental officials and representatives from the Isle of Man Government.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department to Mrs R Thompson regarding the painting of yellow lines in Wellington Park, Belfast.

*Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding the gritting of Tirgracy Road, Antrim.

- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding Committee queries on Translink timetables for CAFRE students and the Integrated Transport Pilot Project.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding a public consultation on Proposed Public Passenger Transport Regulations 2014 and agreed to request a Departmental briefing on this issue at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Roy Beggs MLA regarding a Private Members Bill on scrap metal theft and agreed to submit a response. The Committee also agreed to request that the Department also makes a submission, given the importance of this issue to Translink and NI Water.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted copies of newsletters produced by North West Region Cross Border Group.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Kenneth Galloway regarding public transport in Crumlin, Co Antrim and agreed to forward to the Department for comment.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from QPANI regarding its response to EU Commission Consultation on Formal Review of Aggregates Levy.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence relating to the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland – Investing Activity Report for December 2013.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding the market value of lands at Frederick Street, Belfast.
- Agreed:* The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding Committee queries on January Monitoring Bid and the works to bus and rail stations.

## **5. Department for Regional Development Briefing: Road Closures and Diversions**

*10:37am      The following officials joined the meeting*

Kevin Monaghan – Divisional Roads Manager, Eastern Division, Transport NI  
Graeme Salmon – Traffic Manager, Eastern Division, Transport NI

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

10:47am Mr McAleer left the meeting

11:12am Mr McAleer re-joined the meeting

11:26am Mrs Hale left the meeting

11:31am Mrs Hale re-joined the meeting

11:32am Mr Ó hOisín left the meeting

11:35am Mr Ó hOisín re-joined the meeting

11:40am Mr Lynch left the meeting

11:42am The officials left the meeting

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask for further detailed information on the tendering process for awarding contracts for road works and improvements.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask if there are any plans to upgrade signage when it comes to diversionary routes.

11:42am Mrs Hale left the meeting

## **6. Draft Terms of Reference: Inquiry into Benefits of Cycling in Northern Ireland**

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed the draft Terms of Reference for the Inquiry. Members also agreed to write to other Statutory Committees who may have an interest in this area of work, to seek input and agreement for the Committee to undertake this Inquiry.

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

*Members noted:*

- The Waiting Restrictions (Ballykelly) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Parking Places and Loading Bays on Roads (Glengall Street, Belfast) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013
- The Parking Places on Roads (Electric Vehicles) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Loading Bays and Parking Places on Roads (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014

11:44am      *Mr Lynch re-joined the meeting*

*Agreed:*      The Committee agreed to write to the Department for clarification on the Parking Places and Loading Bays on Roads (Glengall Street, Belfast) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013.

**8. SL1: The Green Road, Conlig (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013**

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

**9. SL1: The Slieveboy Road, Claudy (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014**

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

**10. SL1: The Disert Road, Draperstown (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014**

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

**11. SR 2013/265: The Galwally Avenue, Belfast (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013**

*Mr Spratt declared an interest as having taken part in consultations with the Department to progress this issue.*

*Agreed:*      That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2013/265: The Galwally Avenue, Belfast (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013 and has no objection to the rule.

**12. SR 2013/266: The Route 6005 Quoile Brae, Downpatrick (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013**

*Agreed:*      That the Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2013/266: The Route 6005 Quoile Brae, Downpatrick (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013 and has no objection to the rule.

**13. Any Other Business**

The Chairperson reminded Members that the Committee will be undertaking a study visit to Edinburgh/Dunfermline from Wednesday 29th January – Friday 31st January.

#### **14. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at 10:00am in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

11:50am      *The meeting was adjourned*

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**Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA**  
**Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development**  
**15/01/14**