



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2015
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present:

Mr Trevor Clarke MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Ms Claire Hanna MLA
Mr Chris Lyttle MLA
Mr David McNarry MLA
Mr Stephen Moutray MLA

In attendance:

Mr Paul Carlisle (Clerk to the Committee)
Ms Pamela Carson (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Mark O'Hare (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Barry McLernon (Clerical Officer)

Apologies:

Mr Declan McAleer MLA
Adrian Cochrane-Watson MLA

10:07am Mr Lynch assumed the role of Chairperson

10:07am The meeting commenced in open session

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Chairperson's Business

3. Draft Minutes: Meeting of 23 September 2015

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 23 September 2015.

4. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

5. Water & Sewerage Services Bill Oral Evidence – Northern Ireland Freshwater Task Force

10.10am The following witnesses joined the meeting

- Mr John Martin, Senior Conservation Office, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds*
- Mr Jim Haughey MBE, Chairman, Ulster Angling Federation Ltd*
- Dr Stephen McCabe, Senior Policy & project Officer, Northern Ireland Environment Link*

The Committee received oral evidence from Freshwater Taskforce in regards to the Water and Sewerage Services Bill.

10.18am Mr Clarke joined the meeting and assumed the role of Chairperson.

10.21am Mr Moutray joined the meeting.

10.32am Mr Lynch left the meeting.

10.35am Mr Lynch rejoined the meeting.

10.45am Mr Lyttle joined the meeting.

10.52am Ms Hanna left the meeting.

10.55am Ms Hanna rejoined the meeting.

10.56am Mr Lynch left the meeting.

Agreed: Guidance to be provided by Freshwater Taskforce regarding the breakdown of costs where Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) are used to gain planning permission.

6. Water & Sewerage Services Bill Oral Evidence – Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)

10.58am The following witnesses joined the meeting

- *Ms Karen Smyth, Head of Policy, NILGA*
- *Cllr Sean McPeake, Office Bearer, NILGA*

The Committee received oral evidence from NILGA in regards to the Water and Sewerage Services Bill.

Agreed: The Committee to write to the Department for Regional Development to ask why only hard SuDs have been addressed in the Water & Sewerage Services Bill.

Agreed: NILGA to advise on their representation on Clause 5 regarding the adoption of roads and infrastructure issues.

11.10am Mr McNarry left the meeting.

11.19am Mr McNarry rejoined the meeting.

7. Inquiry into Committee Primary Legislation on the Consumer Council

Agreed: Members agreed the Terms of Reference.

Agreed: Members agreed a 6 week consultation period.

Agreed: Members agreed the insertion of the signposting advertisement in the local press and on the Committee Website.

8. Forward Work Programme

Members discussed the Forward Work Programme and agreed to contact the Committee staff team to confirm their attendance at future external meetings.

9. Any Other Business

Members were advised of the Department of Regional Development Public Information Events being held on 8 and 9 October in relation to the designs for sections of the Belfast Rapid Transit.

Members agreed to invite the Permanent Secretary to a future meeting. Areas for discussion with the Permanent Secretary to be provided to the Clerk in advance for the meeting.

Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 7 October 2015 at 10:00am in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

11.31pm *The meeting was adjourned.*

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Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development
23/09/15