



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

**COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2016  
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**Present:**

Mr Trevor Clarke MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Séan Lynch (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr John Dallat MLA  
Mrs Brenda Hale MLA  
Mr Stephen Moutray MLA  
Mr Declan McAleer MLA  
Mr Adrian Cochrane-Watson MLA

**In attendance:**

Mr Trevor Allen (Senior Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Ms Kate McCullough (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Stephen Magee (Clerical Supervisor)  
Mr Barry McLernon (Clerical Officer)

*10.02am: The meeting opened in public session*

*10.03am: Mr McAleer joined the meeting*

**CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS**

The Chairperson informed the Committee of an invitation he received from the Chinese Consulate-General in Belfast to celebrate Chinese New Year which he is unable to attend.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr McNarry.

**2. DRAFT MINUTES: MEETING OF 27 JANUARY 2016**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting on 27 January 2016.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

Members considered correspondence received from IMTAC regarding Public Hire Taxi Ranks in Belfast and concerns around the impact on those with mobility issues.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite IMTAC to its event on public transport in Belfast in March.

### **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

Members noted the correspondence received.

### **5. DEPARTMENTAL PROGRESS AGAINST PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT (PfG) TARGETS – BRIEFING FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SERVICE (RaISe)**

*10.08 am: The Researcher joined the meeting*

The Researcher briefed the committee on the paper ‘Progress Towards delivery of Programme for Government Commitments’ which was provided by RaISe.

*10.12am: Mr Lynch left the meeting*

*10.13am: Mr Lynch joined the meeting*

*10:17am: Mr Moutray left the meeting*

*10:17am: Mrs Hale joined the meeting*

*10.20am: The Researcher left the meeting*

### **6. DEPARTMENTAL PROGRESS AGAINST PfG TARGETS – THE DEPARTMENT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

*10.20am: The following officials joined the meeting:*

- Mr David Crabbe, Head of Departmental Co-ordination Unit
- Mr Tom Reid, Director of Transport Policy, Strategy & Legislation Division
- Mr Philip Hamilton, Head of Engineering Services, Transport NI

The Committee received briefing from officials on the Department’s achievements of its PfG targets.

*10.36am: Mrs Hale left the meeting*

*10.45am: Mr Cochrane-Watson joined the meeting*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to request information on:

- the definition of a rural school, as used in the development of the Active Schools Travel Programme;
- how schools were selected to participate in the programme;
- the outworkings of the cycling strategy, including how it can be increased and progressed in the future;
- how further development of greenways might be progressed through the use of disused train track beds and canal beds.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to request a copy of the detailed information provided during the briefing; particularly the financial figures quoted.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to request information on a concern raised in relation to the connection of homes in smaller towns to the sewerage network;

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to consider a draft issues paper on the PfG targets at its meeting on 10 February 2016.

*10.48am: The officials left the meeting*

## **7. LAND ACQUISITION AND COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT) BILL**

*10.48am: The following officials joined the meeting:*

- Mr Tom Reid, Director of Transport Policy, Strategy and Legislation Division
- Mr Philip Hamilton, Head of Engineering Services, Transport NI
- Mr Garry McKenna, Transport Legislation

The Committee received briefing from officials on the Land Acquisition and Compensation (Amendment) Bill, and the proposal to progress this legislation by the accelerated passage procedure.

*11.00am: Mrs Hale joined the meeting*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to receive a written timetable on the progression of this Bill.

*11.15am: Witnesses left the meeting*

## **8. INTEGRATED PASSENGER TRANSPORT PROPOSALS – DEPARTMENT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

*11.15am: The following officials joined the meeting:*

- Mr Sean Johnston, Transport Projects
- Mr Michael Deery, Transport Projects
- Mr Tony Rafferty, Public Transport Reform

The Committee received briefing from officials on the progress to date on integrated passenger transport proposals.

*11.17am: Mr Clarke left the meeting and Mr Lynch took the Chair*

*11.17am: Mr Cochrane-Watson left the meeting*

*11.31am: Mr Cochrane-Watson joined the meeting*

*11.34am: The officials left the meeting*

## **9. EU Matters**

Members noted the Northern Ireland Assembly's EU Matters publication.

### **10-12 SL1s – NEGATIVE RESOLUTION**

*Agreed:* The Committee was content with the merits of the policy proposal for The Green Road, Conlig (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015.

*Agreed:* The Committee was content with the merits of the policy proposal for Disabled persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee was content with the merits of the policy proposal for The College Street, Belfast (Stopping-Up) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

### **13-15 SL1s – TO NOTE**

*Agreed:* The Committee was content to note the following SL1s:

- The Parking Places Loading Bays and Waiting Restrictions Amendments (Lisburn) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
- The Road Races (Mid Antrim 150) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016
- The Road Races (Spamount Hill Climb) (Northern Ireland) 2016

## **16. DRAFT FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to hold its meeting to discuss the future of Public Hire Taxi ranks in Belfast on Wednesday 9 March 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered and agreed the forward work programme until the end of the mandate.

## **17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

*11.44am: Mr Clarke joined the meeting*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to a request from RNIB to take photographs at its tour to RADAR facilities on 17 February 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to ask for the timeline leading up to the recent introduction of the 20 MPH speed limits in Belfast.

The Committee noted an invitation from the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development to attend a visit on 18 February to view the workings of the sluice gates at Toome. A number of Members indicated their intention to attend.

## **18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Committee will be on Wednesday 10 February 2016 at 10am in Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

*11.46pm: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting*

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**Mr Trevor Clarke MLA**  
**Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development**

**10 February 2016**