

David,

Please see below the issues arising from the ETI Committee meeting on 27 October:

Matters Arising

- In relation to an InterTradelreland report on the agri-food sector; members agreed to receive more information on the report – status, content and why it's not being published.

Inquiry into Research and Development

- Members agreed to ask invest NI and InterTradelreland to provide information on appropriate businesses (those that have successfully availed of opportunities for R&D and innovation); as the Committee may invite them to give evidence to the inquiry.
- Members agreed to forward the research papers to the Department for information (please see attached).

Subordinate legislation on Insolvency

- Members were content with the SL1s:
 - Insolvency (Fees) (Amendment No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2011
 - Insolvency (Deposits) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2011
 - Insolvency Practitioners and Insolvency Account (Fees) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2011
- In relation to allowing petitioners for insolvency to pay fees in instalments; members agreed to ask the Department to consider the feasibility of this concept and report back to the Committee.

OFT Study into Off-Grid Energy Markets

- Members agreed to ask the Consumer Affairs branch in DETI to provide details to the Committee on what actions exist to prevent the practice of short measuring and what mechanisms are in place to ensure that it does not occur.
- Members agreed to ask the Consumer Affairs branch in DETI to provide the Committee with details of the number of complaints they have received in relation to oil suppliers and information on how Consumer Affairs handles the complaints and the number of cases that Consumer Affairs had to intervene and enforce consumer protection regulations.
- Members agreed to ask officials to address progress on the extension of the gas network at the meeting of 24 November.
- Members agreed to seek the Department's comments and views on the study – especially in relation to the areas of consumer protection and NI's potential for more gas connections.

SR 2011/365 The Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011

- Members were content and question was read.

NIRO

- Members agreed to defer to the meeting of 17 November and to forward the papers to the Committee for Environment.

Correspondence

- In relation to correspondence from the CAL Committee requesting an oral briefing from NITB; members agreed to forward the request to NITB (please see attached).
- In relation to correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding INTERREG IVA and SEUPB; members agreed to receive a written briefing from the Department on how JEREMIE has been taken forward in NI (please see attached).
- In relation to the briefing note from DETI on Future University Funding in NI; members agreed to forward to the Committee for Employment and Learning (would be grateful if you would confirm it's not sensitive).

Outstanding requests**From 20 October meeting:**

- In relation to Invest NI; members agreed to receive information on the new loan scheme for SMEs (announced by Invest NI) that will drawdown EU money. In particular, information as to why interest rates are higher than bank rates and if the EU money existed before or if this is money from a different programme. Members also commented that this announcement should have been made at the floor of the Assembly or brought to the Committee in the first instance.
- In relation in implementation of the Strategic Energy Framework:
 1. Officials agreed to provide details specific key projects that are a part of the SEF and the actions, timetables, objectives and targets that are contained in the projects.
 2. Members agreed to receive the summary of the responses to the Department's RHI consultation by end of November.
 3. Officials agreed to provide more information on the Moyle Interconnector; specifically: What happened? Could it have been prevented? What were the costs? What can be done to prevent it happening again?
- Members agreed to forward correspondence from the Minister to the Committee for Employment on EU Framework Programme 7.
- Members agreed to forward correspondence the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure on the Fermanagh Seaplane Festival to the Department for a response.
- Members agreed to forward correspondence the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development on export opportunities to the Agri-food sector to the Department for a response.

From 13 October meeting:

- In relation to the briefing paper from the Department regarding the Boosting Business Initiative; members agree to ask Invest NI to go into more detail on this during its oral briefing in December.

From 6 October meeting:

- In relation to the October Monitoring Round:
 1. Officials agreed to share the predicted models for the DETI budget (and in particular for Invest NI and future projects) and draw down of funding from the budget and how this will pan out in the next 5 years.
 2. Officials agreed provide details of how they are trying to restructure the Short Term Employment Scheme (perhaps this can be addressed during Invest NI's briefing in December).
 3. Officials agreed to provide details of Invest NI's letters of offer that are currently live.
- In relation to correspondence from the Committee for Environment on the North/South Interconnector; members agreed to forward to the Department for response.

From 30 September meeting:

- In relation to InterTradeIreland:
 1. Officials agreed to forward the results of the business monitoring survey to the Committee.
 2. Officials agreed to forward any current/future research papers in relation to business/economy to the Committee.

From 22 September meeting:

- In relation to correspondence received from the Committee for Environment on fracking; members agreed to forward them to the Department for response.
- Members agreed for the Chair and Deputy Chair to arrange to meet with NITB to see how they can promote a positive attitude to life and living within local communities on which tourism events impact.

From 15 September meeting:

- In relation to the Renewable Energy Inquiry:
 1. In relation to DETI's planned study into best options for the introduction of a form of "energy supplier obligation" in NI; members agreed to receive this from the Department and forward it to the Committee for Social Development when the reply is received.
- In relation to CAG:
 1. Members agreed to receive a timetable for the Bill.
 2. Members agreed to schedule an oral briefing from the Department on final policy proposals before the Committee Stage of the Bill.
- In relation to the Committee for Finance and Personnel's letter on the end year flexibility scheme; members agreed to forward this letter to the Department to

ask how the budget exchange scheme will impact on its work and how the proposal for the Minister for DFP would impact on its work.

From 30 June meeting:

- In relation to a NI renewable heat incentive, members agreed to receive the outcomes of the consultation when they become available, before the final scheme is developed and finalised by the Department.
- In relation to the consultation on the potential for extending the natural gas network in NI, members agreed to receive a summary of consultation responses from the Department.
- In relation to the Letter from the Minister to the Chair regarding Electricity Market Reform (EMR); members agreed to receive the outcomes of DETI's review on the potential impact of the EMR proposals on NI when they become available.

From 23 June meeting:

- In relation to Proposals to Amend the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (NI) 1997 (RIDDOR); members noted and agreed to receive a summary of responses from the Department when they become available.

From 2 June meeting

- Members agreed to receive details of substantive reduced requirements from the Department on an on-going basis as and when they inform DFP.
- Members agreed that papers for future monitoring rounds may be at the Committee Office on the Monday prior to the meeting at which they will be considered rather than having to adhere to the 5-day requirement agreed in the Executive's Departmental Guidance on Assembly Committees – with assurances from the Department that they will adhere to this deadline.

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