

From: Yim, Sohui

Sent: 19 January 2012 16:05

To: 'McCune, David' <David.McCune@detini.gov.uk>

Cc: McManus, Jim <Jim.McManus@niassembly.gov.uk>; McKee, David <David.McKee@niassembly.gov.uk>; McDowell, Michelle <Michelle.McDowell@niassembly.gov.uk>; Haughan, Anthony <Anthony.Haughan@detini.gov.uk>; 'Murray, John' <John.Murray@detini.gov.uk>; 'Clarke, Rosie' <Rosie.Clarke@detini.gov.uk>

Subject: Issues arising from the ETI Committee meeting on 19 January

David,

Please see below issues arising from the ETI Committee meeting on 19 January:

Matters Arising

- In relation to the Minister's letter regarding the January Monitoring Round; members agreed for the Chair to respond to Minister (will send next later this week).

Strategic Energy Framework

- Members agreed to receive the detailed implementation plan for the years 2012-2015 to ensure that Northern Ireland is compliant with EU electricity model by 2016.
- Members agreed to schedule an oral briefing on the 1 March on the renewable heat incentive and also receive an update and progress report for the gas extension project.

Correspondence

- In relation to correspondence from the Committee for Environment on Renewable Fuel Targets; members agreed to forward to the Department for a direct response to the Committee for Environment, copied to this Committee (please see attached).
- In relation to a query from member of the public regarding the Renewable Heat Incentive; members agreed to forward the query to the Department for a direct response to the inquirer (please see attached).
- In relation to correspondence from the Environment Committee regarding the draft Programme for Government and the Green New Deal; members agreed to forward to the Department for response (please see attached).

Research and Development

- It is understood that only 10 organisations account for almost 60% of all R&D in Northern Ireland. Members agreed to ask the Department for details of these organisations and also from those organisations which comprise the remaining 40%; the Committee will write to those organisations and request written evidence (please see attached origin of stats).

- In relation to the Department's briefing on 29th March on its draft action plan for R&D, Innovation and Creativity; members agreed to schedule the Department to provide separate oral briefings on this date for both the action plan and the Inquiry.
- Members agreed to provide InterTradeIreland, Invest NI and DETI with details of emerging issues before they give evidence.

Outstanding requests

From 12 January

- In relation to the US Open in San Francisco; members agreed to seek whether Tourism Ireland will have a presence during the event.
- In relation to the January Monitoring Round:
 1. to the Jobs Fund; members agreed to receive information on how much of the fund that has been spent to date and the number of jobs that it has created.
 2. to the £5.6m; members agreed to ask that the Committee be informed if/when the money can be used by Invest NI.
- In relation to the Draft Comprehensive Action Plan for Draft Economic Strategy; members agreed to await submissions and consider the issue again at the meeting of 9 February.

From 15 December

- In relation to the renewable heat incentive; members agreed to write to the Department to request clarification how this will effect existing gas customers and what part of the incentive will be available to them).
- In relation to better access to finance for businesses; members agreed to receive information on whether there is a role for credit unions to lend to businesses.

From 8 December

- In relation to the Department leading a working group to consider a support model for Northern Ireland companies to better access FP7 and to consider the approach to Horizon 2020; members agreed to ask the Department to provide the Committee with details of the outcomes of the working group to date and any recommendations the Group has brought forward.

From 1 December

- Members agreed to receive some additional information regarding Invest NI's programmes, job creation and employment.

From 24 November

- In relation to the update on progress of the recommendations in the Renewable Energy Inquiry report; members agreed:
 1. To ask that the Department forward a copy of the cost benefit analysis paper on energy vires and the roadmap for the long-term vision for renewable energy to the Committee following the SEIDWG meeting on 30th November.

2. To receive more detail on the proposal to organise a seminar on educating the financial sector on the long-term security of renewable energy and to obtain the Department's views on the impact of a Feed-in Tariff on lender confidence in renewable energy projects.
3. To ask that the Department inform the Committee as soon as the outcome of consideration of the Green New Deal business proposal by the interdepartmental working group is known.

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 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 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.

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