

**From:** McCullough, Kate  
**Sent:** 09 February 2012 15:19  
**To:** David McCune (david.mccune@detini.gov.uk) <david.mccune@detini.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** McManus, Jim <Jim.McManus@niassembly.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** ETI Committee Meeting 9 Feb. 2012

David

My first e-mail to you!!

Please see below issues arising from the ETI Committee meeting on 9 February:

### **Matters Arising**

- Innovations Unit Request for a list of stakeholders providing evidence to the Committee on R&D is attached. Please note this list is not exhaustive and further stakeholders may be called to give evidence by the Committee. (See attached)
- Credit Unions: Letter attached to Minister in relation to financial assistance to credit unions in training and transitions and table of costings. (See attached).

Kate

### **Outstanding requests**

#### **From 2 February**

- In relation to the infraction proceedings by the European Commission on CAG; members note that the Minister's officials will contact the Clerk to arrange a suitable time to brief the Committee (would be grateful if you would follow this up and let Jim know the suitable dates).
- Also in relation to the CAG project; members agreed to obtain information on the latest date that the arrangements can be in place in order to avoid the possibility of a fine being imposed and how soon the legislation is expected to come into effect.
- In relation to Invest NI's response on number of indigenous business starts April 2007-March2010 by Parliamentary Constituency Area; members agreed to receive information on the breakdown of those businesses delivered directly by Invest NI and those businesses delivered directly by Enterprise NI through the Go-for-It Programme.

#### **From 26 January**

- In relation to a letter from GT Energy regarding the RHI and geothermal energy; members agreed to forward the letter to the Department for its views and comment on GT Energy's suggestions.

- In relation to the NITB oral briefing and number of tourists and tourism spend in 2012; members agreed to receive the anticipated figures when they become available.
- In relation to scheduling of oral evidence sessions for the Research & Development Inquiry; members were content with the Department's proposals in relation to the sequence of sessions for DETI, Invest NI and InterTradeIreland (Could you please confirm if DETI officials are available on 22 March and Invest NI and InterTradeIreland officials on 29 March).
- In relation to correspondence to Invest NI from a member of the public; members agreed to forward the correspondence to the Department for confirmation that Invest NI follows the appropriate procedures in the recruitment process (a brief outline of requirements would be helpful – please see attached).

#### From 19 January

- In relation to the SEF; 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.
- 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.
- In relation to the research and development inquiry; members agreed to provide InterTradeIreland, Invest NI and DETI with details of emerging issues before they give evidence.

#### 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.

#### From 15 December

- 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 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 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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