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FW: DALO brief

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David

Please see below issues arising from the ETI Committee meeting on 16 February:

Matters Arising

- Electricity Market Reform: Following a number of questions raised by economist John Simpson given oral evidence on the 9th February members agreed to seek the views of the Department on the questions he raised (see attached)

Agenda Item 6

- Members agreed to respond to the final Economy Strategy and agreed to forward the response to the Department. (See attached).
- It was agreed to write to ask the Department if the allocation of £12m set aside for Green New Deal was still in place for this purpose.

Agenda Item 7

- Subordinate Legislation SR2012/11 Petroleum (Consolidation) Act. –The Committee had no objection to the rule.

Correspondence

- A response received from the Department to a letter from GT Energy regarding potential development of a deep geothermal energy in Northern Ireland. It was agreed to forward the response on to Ballymena Borough Council for information and comment. (The response advised that elements of this submission would be exempt under section 35 of the FOI Act, subject to a public interest test and we would be grateful if you can let us know if the response could be released to the Council.)
- Regarding a letter from the Mount Conference Centre on Civil Service use of non-public sector premises. The Committee agreed to ask the Department if officials are aware of the policy and are implementing it and what they understand the rationale for the policy to be. (see attached)
- It was agreed to forward the information provided by the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding quarterly monitoring of Post Project Evaluations (PPEs) and to

ask the Department for reasons for the delay in completing the post project evaluations.

AOB

- A member raised the issue non EU visitors to the Republic of Ireland gaining entry into Northern Ireland. These visitors would need an additional visa to enter Northern Ireland, however, visitors to the UK do not need an additional visa to enter the RoI. The Committee agreed to ask the Department to seek clarification on the issue and to ask what is being done to resolve it. (The member stated that the issue has been raised as an Assembly Question, therefore a copy of a response to that question forwarded to the Committee should suffice).

PMS

- The Committee agreed to ask the Department for a copy of the administrators report highlighted in the newspaper article (see attached).

Kate

Outstanding requests

From 9 February

Credit Unions: Letter attached to Minister in relation to financial assistance to credit unions and table of costings. (See attached).

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 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 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 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 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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ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM MEETING ON THE 16 FEBRUARY 2012

ACTION	MEETING	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS
POST MEETING				
Update Committee Database and check Database entry		MD	M/D	
Forward tabled/additional papers to absent members		MD	M	
Arrange for agreed minutes of last meeting to be signed & posted on the Internet. Copy to DETI Press Office and email to +website assist update		MD	M	
Ensure full copy of pack/tabled papers held in cabinet		MD	M	
DALO's email		Thursday	K	
Draft minutes		Friday	D/K	
Update FWP and post to website		Friday	M	
Update Progress Diaries with Minute extracts		Wednesday	D	
PRE MEETING				
Draft Agenda	Previous week	Wednesday	D/K	
Add meeting details to Committee database (i.e. agenda items, witnesses etc, Hansard & Doorkeepers required).	Previous week	Wednesday	M	
Prepare meeting pack (photocopy papers, compile folders and tabs)		Friday	M	
Issue meeting pack		Monday	M/D	
First Draft of Chair's Brief		Monday	D	
Send any relevant papers and business diary to Hansard		Monday	D	
Email members re attendance at Committee meeting		Monday	M	
Draft Chair's Brief		Tuesday	K	
Previous week's minutes printed on Ivory paper, give to Asst. Clerk		Tuesday	M	
Respond to Notice of Forthcoming Business		Tuesday	D/J	
Tabled papers and nameplates		Wednesday	M	
Email MA + Correspondence Indices to DALO and cc.JMM and SY		Wednesday	M	
Copy agenda & Chair's brief to Damien Martin and John Stewart (agenda only)		Wednesday	D	
Advise MMD of informal meetings to keep database updated			All	

ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM MEETING ON THE 16 FEBRUARY 2012

ACTION	MEETING	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS
Include ITI Centre of Excellence recommendation for ITI Inquiry evidence	9/2	16/3	J	
Reply to 2 Credit Unions with generic letter	16/2	17/2	K	
Liaise with Diane Dodds office re meeting with Alban	16/2	17/2	K	
Write to Utility Regulator and NIE re EMR	16/2	17/2	K	
EU Priorities to OFMDFM	16/2	17/2	J	
Contact ARD Clerk re Bord Bia	16/2	22/2	J	
Tamboran and community group on future FWP	16/2	17/2	M	
Update spreadsheet and notify Business Office re SR	16/2	17/2	M	
Write to GT Energy and Ballymena Council re geothermal energy	16/2	22/2	D	
Email members re STEM and AgendaNI	16/2	17/2	M	
Employers for Childcare (Social Economy) on future FWP	16/2	17/2	M	
Letter to Mutual Energy re Infraction	16/2	22/2	K	
Briefing paper for SERC	16/2	20/2	J	
Briefing paper for CBI	16/2	20/2	J	
Briefing paper for NESTA	16/2	20/2	J	
Contact CBI re meeting at SERC	16/2	17/2	K	
Listen to recording re Daithí's request for research on GT Energy	16/2	22/2	K	
Research and Development Inquiry	MEETING	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS
Draft questions for CBI	16/2	20/2	F	
Liaise between Alban and Jim Nicholson's office re meeting	9/2	21/2	F	
Memo to EL Committee re oral evidence from Belfast Met College, Uni of Ulster and QUB	9/2	15/2	K	
Draft questions for other organisations arising from Almac's presentation	16/2	22/2	J	
Visits	MEETING	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS
Organise SERC visit	26/1	15/2	D/M	
Organise NISP visit	26/1	7/3	D/M	
Email members re bus for SERC	16/2	17/2	M	