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Issues arising from the Committee Meeting of the 23 February

David

Please see below issues arising from the ETI Committee meeting on 23 February:

- A copy of the Assembly Research on the EU SME Envoy Network Stakeholder Event. (see attached)

Kate

### Outstanding requests

#### 16 February

- Electricity Market Reform: Following a number of questions raised by economist John Simpson given oral evidence on the 9<sup>th</sup> February members agreed to seek the views of the Department on the questions he raised (see attached)
- 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. (DETI Finance colleagues advised that a draft reply can be provided by 20/04/12)
- 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).
- The Committee agreed to ask the Department for a copy of the administrators report highlighted in the newspaper article (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.

#### 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).

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

#### 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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