

From: Jim McManus  
Committee Clerk  
Committee for Enterprise, Trade & Investment

VERSION: 30/05/2017 08:54

To: Alban Maginness  
Chairperson

cc Daithí McKay

Date: 17 May 2012

**CHAIR'S BRIEF FOR THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE FOR ENTERPRISE, TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN ROOM 30, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, 17 MAY 2012 AT 10.00 AM.**

**Before the meeting begins: Advise members that the meeting will begin in closed session to allow members to discuss issues relating to the Research and Development Inquiry. Inform members that you have to leave at 11am so the Deputy Chair will take the Chair.**

**Agenda Item 1 – (Closed Session): Inquiry into Research & Development**

**1. Inform members that papers on this item are at Tab 1.**

**Inform** members included in the papers are the draft report including Conclusions and Recommendations. Also included is an extract from the Global Innovation Index 2011 which is referred to in the report. **Tabled** today is a draft of the Executive Summary and Introduction to the report. The Clerk has provided a briefing paper with background and summary of content.

**2. Inform** members that **tabled** today is a copy of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Newry and Mourne District Council and the Louth Local Authorities to support and promote the economic development and competitiveness of the region. **Ask** members if they are content to include a reference in the Inquiry report to both this and Castlereagh Borough Council's initiative (Item 5, Tab 5) as examples of the potential for cooperation on R&D at local level. **Note to Chair: you may wish to ask Phil Flanagan to comment on the MoU as it was he who brought it to the Committee's attention.**

**3. Ask** members to contact the Clerk or Chairperson if there are any further suggestions for amendments to the draft Report. **Inform** members that the Committee will consider the full report at next week's meeting.

**Note to Chair: if members are broadly content with the draft Report and with the proposals regarding Newry & Mourne District Council and Castlereagh Borough Council, you may wish to suggest that the Committee formally considers the final report at next week's meeting.**

4. **Inform** members that included in papers is the draft motion for plenary debate which has been provisionally scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> June. **Ask** members if they are content with the draft motion.
5. **Tabled today** is an invitation from Belfast Metropolitan College to an event regarding Framework Programme 7 on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 9am-1pm. **Remind** members that they had previously expressed an interest in attending this event. **Ask** members if they wish to attend.

6. **Advise** members that the meeting will now move into public session

#### **Agenda Item 2 – Apologies**

7. **Welcome** and remind members and the public that the meeting will be held in **public session** and that all mobile phones and electronic devices should be switched off as, even in silent mode, phones interfere with the recording system.
8. **Inform** members that apologies have been received from Paul Frew and Paul Givan. **Ask** members if they have any further apologies.

#### **Agenda Item 3 – Minutes of meeting held on 3 May 2012**

9. **Inform** members that copies of these minutes have been included in their papers at **Tab 2**. **Ask** members if they are content with the draft minutes.

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Chairperson's Business**

##### **Institute of Engineering and Technology**

10. **Inform** members that papers on this item are included at **Tab 3**.
11. **Inform** members that correspondence has been received from the Institute of Engineering and Technology requesting a meeting with the Chairperson and the Engineering Policy Group Northern Ireland (EPGNI) to discuss their work. **Advise** members you will meet the group on behalf of the Committee.

### George Best City Airport

12. **Inform** members George Best City Airport has requested the opportunity to brief the Committee in light of recent developments and on its future plans as a gateway to both business and tourism in Northern Ireland. **Ask** members if they are content to schedule an oral briefing for 24 May.

### Agenda Item 5 – Matters arising from 3 May 2012 meeting

#### Go For It Programme

13. **Remind** that while the Committee welcomed recent progress regarding the Go For It Programme, members asked for further clarification on any revised Terms of Reference and the timings for the process.
14. **Inform** members Invest NI is currently finalising the Terms of Reference for the future start up provision with the Central Procurement Directorate. As this process is in the advanced stage of tendering Invest NI felt it would not be appropriate to make the details of the Terms of Reference available at present. Invest NI will provide the Committee with the relevant information later this month, once the process has initiated.
15. **Ask** members if they are content to note and to await the information.

#### Visit by EU Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science

16. **Tabled** today is correspondence detailing the visit by the EU Commissioner Marie Geoghegan-Quinn to Parliament Buildings on the 7 June and her meeting with the Committee at 9.25 in room 115. **Remind** members of the visit to NIACE following this meeting.

#### Oral Briefings on Hydraulic Fracturing

17. **Remind** members that at last week's meeting it was agreed that the Committee would consider the format for meetings where oral briefings on hydraulic fracturing are planned. **Remind** members that there are oral briefings planned for 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June. **Advise** members that the Environment Committee also meets on Thursday mornings and that both Committees have busy work schedules between now and summer recess. This prevents Environment Committee members attending meetings of this Committee and makes it impractical to hold two joint meetings. **Ask** members if they are content to forward copies of the Hansard reports of these evidence sessions to the Environment Committee.

**Agenda Item 6 (10.30am) – Evolution Project: Castlereagh Borough Council**

18. **Inform** members that papers on this item are at **Tab 5**.
19. **Inform** members that included in papers is a briefing paper from Castlereagh Borough Council. The Assistant Clerk has provided a briefing paper with background and summary of content.
20. **Inform** members that briefing the Committee today are Colin McCabrey, Economic Development Manager, Castlereagh Borough Council; Roger Warnock, Investment and Enterprise Development Manager, Castlereagh Borough Council; and George Dorrian, Policy Adviser, Federation of Small Businesses.
21. **Welcome** the representatives to the meeting and invite them to make an opening statement.

**Agenda Item 7 (11.15am) – Energising Northern Ireland Report: Consumer Council**

22. **Inform** members that papers on this item are at **Tab 6**.
23. **Inform** members that included in papers is a briefing paper from the Consumer Council and a copy of the full report. The Assistant Clerk has provided a briefing paper with background and summary of content.
24. **Remind** members that Lord Whitty and the Consumer Council briefed the Committee on the background to the report on 8 December 2011.
25. **Inform** members that briefing the Committee today is Lord Whitty.
26. **Welcome** the Lord Whitty to the meeting and invite him to make an opening statement.

**Agenda Item 8 – Reform of the Northern Ireland Credit Unions: Financial Services Bill (LCM)**

27. **Inform** members that papers on this item are at **Tab 7**.
28. **Inform** members included in papers is a letter from the Minister to the Chair to inform the Committee that the Department is intending to seek a Legislative Consent Motion (LCM) under urgent procedure to amend the current legislation to

allow the functions of registrar of Northern Ireland credit unions to transfer from the Department to the appropriate GB Authority.

29. **Inform** members that the Minister's letter states that the timescale requires that the LCM be laid before the Assembly on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012. **Advise** members that the LCM has not yet been laid in the Business Office. The Department has informed the Committee Office that this is due to clearance not yet having been received from OFMDFM.
30. **Inform** members that the Department has asked the Committee to submit a report by 24 May 2012. **Inform** members that also included in papers is a draft report based on the Committee's consideration of the proposed reforms.
31. **Ask** members if they have any comments. **Ask** members if they are content (given the level of interest that Committee has had and the need to progress the legislation) to agree a final report at next week's meeting (assuming the Committee is content with the LCM).
32. **Inform** members that the Department has indicated that the Minister intends to make a statement on 22 May to update the Assembly on the on-going reforms to Northern Ireland credit unions. **Advise** members that **tabled** today is the Hansard of a question to the Minister regarding the legislative timetable for credit union legislation. **Inform** members that in her answer the Minister states that the Bill is scheduled for passage through the Assembly in the 2013-14 legislative session.

#### **Agenda Item 9 – European Regional Development Fund and Energy Efficiency**

33. **Inform** members that papers on this item are at **Tab 8**.
34. **Remind** members that at the meeting on 22 March the Committee agreed to commission Assembly Research and Information Services to provide more information on the issue of European Regional Development Fund use for energy efficiency in housing. **Inform** members that the report from Assembly Research is included in papers and includes information on the UK allocation and a number of energy efficiency case studies.

35. **Ask** members if they have any comments. **Ask** members if they are content to forward the paper to the Department and to the Committee for Social Development for comment.

#### **Agenda Item 10 – SL1 Renewable Heat Regulations (NI) 2012**

36. **Inform** members that papers on this item are at **Tab. 9**.
37. **Remind** members that the Committee originally considered this SL1 on 19 April and the Committee asked for more detail from the Department regarding incentives for domestic installations (Regulation 15 (1) (a) and 15 (2) and on payments to participants, levels of tariffs and how these will be calculated (Regulation 37).
38. **Inform** members that in the papers is a response from the Department which includes an analysis of the consultation responses. Also included is the original SL1, the draft Statutory Rule and a cover note. The Clerk has provided a briefing paper with summary of content.
39. **Advise** members that this is the Committee's opportunity to consider the policy set out in the SL1, as it is not possible for the Committee to amend this once the rule has been made and laid in the Assembly Business Office but however Members should note that it needs to be affirmed in by the Assembly in Plenary. Therefore Members could, if they wished, vote against the affirmation if this was the case which would cause department to have to review the content of the statutory rule.
40. **Ask** members if they are content with the policy implications of the SL1 at this stage. **Ask** members if they are content to ask the Department to provide details of any policy changes which may arise at SR stage.

#### **Agenda Item 11 – Correspondence**

41. **Inform** members that the following items of correspondence are at **Tab 10**.

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| i. | Correspondence from the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure requesting a briefing from Invest NI officials on the Creative Industries. <b>Ask</b> members if they are content to forward to the Department to respond directly to the CAL Committee and copied to this Committee. |
|----|---|

- ii. Letter to the Chairperson from NICVA seeking a meeting with the Committee to discuss the introduction of the UK wide Work Programme to Northern Ireland. **Ask** members if they are content to seek a written briefing from NICVA in the first instance.
- iii. Letter from the Minister to the Chairperson regarding appointments to the Agri-Food Strategy Board. **Ask** members if they are content to note.
- iv. Response from Department on:
  - a. Nine key proposed tourism areas.
  - b. Number of tourism visits and contribution to the Republic of Ireland (ROI) economy since 2008 in comparison to Northern Ireland (NI).
  - c. Suicide and self-harm.

**Ask** members if they are content to note.
- v. Invite from Colleges NI to an awards ceremony on 21 May. **Ask** members to contact the Committee Office if they wish to attend.
- vi. Correspondence from the Committee for the Environment on Northern Ireland Climate Change Bill Stakeholder Event. **Ask** members to contact the Committee Office if they wish to attend.
- vii. Correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding the Review of Budget Allocations. **Ask** members if they are content to note.
- viii. Letter from the Department of Finance and Personnel regarding the role of PEDU in PFG Monitoring. **Ask** members if they are content to note.
- ix. Letter from the Department regarding the Consultation on Policy Proposals to amend the Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989. **Ask** members if they are content to note.
- x. Correspondence from the Committee for Employment and Learning regarding the Dissolution of DEL. **Ask** members if they are content to note.

**42. Agenda Item 12 – Any other business**

43. **Advise** members that there are no additional items of business. **Ask** members if they have any additional items of business.

**Agenda Item 13 – Date, time and place of next meeting**

44. **Ask** members if they are content to start next week's meeting at 10.00 am as there is a busy agenda planned (including consideration of the Inquiry Report).

45. The next meeting of the Committee will be on **24 May 2012, Room 30, Parliament Buildings at 10.00 am.**