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**Chair's Brief for the Meeting of the
Committee for Enterprise, Trade & Investment**

Room 29, Parliament Buildings

From: Jim McManus

Committee Clerk, Committee for Enterprise, Trade & Investment

To: Patsy McGlone
Chairperson

cc Conor Murphy
Deputy Chairperson

Meeting Date: 2 February 2016

Meeting Time: 10.00am

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1. **Remind members:** all devices should be switched off and Assembly tablets set to mute.

Declare the meeting open to the public.

Welcome and remind members and the public to switch off mobile phones and electronic devices other than the tablets provided by the Assembly for use with the electronic committee packs.

Agenda Item 1 – Apologies

2. **Inform members:** Apologies have been received from Megan Fearon.
3. **Ask members:** if they have received any apologies.

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Agenda Item 2 – Draft Minutes

4. **Inform members:** a copy of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2016 is from **page 5** onwards.
5. **Ask members:** if they are content with the draft minutes.

Agenda Item 3 – Chairperson’s Business

Informal Meeting with Oireachtas Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

NOTE TO CHAIR: you may wish to update members on the informal meeting at which InterTradelreland briefed the two Committees.

6. **Inform members:** associated papers were included in yesterday’s Members’ Information email.
7. **Inform members:** copies of the Oireachtas Committee’s ‘Report on the All-Island Economy’ are available from the Committee Office.
8. **Inform members:** the Committee agreed last week to consider InterTradelreland’s report ‘Mapping the Potential for All-Island Sectoral Ecosystems’ further. The report will therefore be considered under Matters Arising.

Insolvency (Amendment) Bill

9. **Inform members:** The Insolvency (Amendment) Bill received Royal Assent on Friday, 29 January. It will be known as the Insolvency (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016, Chapter 2.
10. **Ask members:** if they are content to note.

Register of Interests

11. **Inform members:** a copy of the Register of Interests for David McIlveen is at **page 3 of Tabled Papers.**

Statements to the Executive and the Assembly on the North South Ministerial Council (NSMC) Meeting in Tourism

12. **Inform members:** correspondence regarding the statements that were made in the Assembly by the Minister yesterday is from **page 4 onwards of Tabled Papers**.
13. **Ask members:** if they have any comments.
14. **Advise members:** in response to a question on the statement the Minister responded that InterTradeIreland could make bids for additional funding through Monitoring Rounds. With the need to obtain match funding from the Department of Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation in the south, bidding through monitoring rounds in June and October may present logistical difficulties.
15. **Ask members:** if they are content to commission Assembly Research on the practicalities of North-South bodies such as InterTradeIreland and Tourism Ireland bidding through monitoring rounds.

Invitations from the Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Belfast

16. **Inform members:** an invitation to the Grand Chinese New year Showcase 2016, to be held on Sunday 21st February 2016 at the Ulster Hall is at **page 11 of Tabled Papers** and an invitation to Celebrate the Chinese Year of the Monkey on Thursday 11th February at 6pm at Belfast Castle is at **page 12 of Tabled Papers**.
17. **Ask members:** if they are content that the Chair attend both events.

Move to Agenda Item 5

Inform members: as members were previously informed, PriceWaterhouseCoopers were scheduled to brief the Committee today on a recent global study on Cities of Opportunity but had to cancel and will submit a written briefing instead. Enterprise NI is scheduled to brief the Committee today at 11am. They may arrive earlier than 11am, however one of the witnesses has some distance to travel.

Ask members: if they are content that we move to Agenda Item 5 and return to Agenda Item 4 once the witnesses have arrived.

Move to Agenda Item 5

Agenda Item 4 – Oral Briefing from Enterprise NI: Enterprise Support Provision and Economic Development Activities

18. **Inform members:** papers for this item include:

- Clerk's Brief (**page 13**)
- Enterprise NI Briefing (**page 14**)

19. **Inform members:** briefing the Committee today is:

- Mr Gordon Gough, CEO, Enterprise NI
- Mr John D'Arcy, Chair, Enterprise NI
- Ms Jayne Taggart, Enterprise NI Board member and Chief Executive of Causeway Enterprise Agency

20. **Welcome:** the representatives to the meeting.

Following the briefing:

21. **Thank the representatives:** for their briefing today.

Agenda Item 5 – Matters Arising

22. **Inform members:** there are **three** items listed on the Index which is at **page 19** of members' packs. Papers are from **pages 20 to 123**.

Departments Bill and Transfer of Functions Order

23. **Inform members:** a draft response to the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister is at **page 20**. There is further correspondence from the Committee from **page 14 onwards of Tabled Papers**.

24. **Ask members:** if they are content to forward the response as drafted.

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25. **Ask members:** if they are content to forward a copy to the Department for information.

InterTradelreland Report 'Mapping the Potential for All-Island Sectoral Ecosystems'

26. **Inform members:** the report is from **page 22** onwards.

27. **Remind members:** the Committee agreed at last week's meeting to consider the report again following InterTradelreland's evidence at the informal meeting at Leinster House.

28. **Ask members:** if they have any comments.

NOTE TO CHAIR: you may wish to ask Máirtín Ó Muilleoir to speak as he raised the matter.

Clarification on Purchase of ROCs by Electricity Suppliers

29. **Inform members:** a response from the Utility Regulator is at **page 46** of **Tabled Papers**.

30. **Ask members:** if they have any comments.

31. **Ask members:** if they are content to note.

Remaining Items on Index

32. **Ask members:** if they are content to note the Departmental response on EU reform on **page 114**.

Agenda Items 6 – Legislation: SR 2016/000 the Debt Relief Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 (Consequential Amendments) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

33. **Inform members:** included in papers is:

- a cover note (**page 125**)
- an Explanatory Memorandum (**page 126**)
- the SR (**page 128**)

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34. **Inform members:** the Rule is subject to **affirmative resolution**.
35. **Remind members:** the Committee **discussed this Rule at SL1 stage** at its meeting on 30 June 2015 and had **no comment** on the Rule. There have been changes in policy content since the SL1 was submitted to the Committee last year. The Rule will come into operation on 7 March 2016.
36. **Inform members:** the Examiner of Statutory Rules has not yet reported on this Rule so members will be agreeing to the legislation subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules Report.

NOTE TO CHAIR: If members are content with the SR please put the following question:

“That the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment has considered SR 2016/000 The Debt Relief Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 (Consequential Amendments) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report recommends that it be affirmed by the Assembly.”

Agenda Item 7 – Written Briefing from RaiSe: Regulation of Cerberus and Capita Asset Service

37. **Inform members:** papers for this item include:
- the research paper (**page 147**)
38. **Ask members:** the paper looks at the regulation of Cerberus and Capita in the UK. Both are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, with the Financial Ombudsman responsible for considering disputes with the firms. Although, in both cases, it is a specific entity or entities within a wider group of companies that have FCA authorisation.
39. **Remind members:** the Committee wrote to Cerberus on 12th January 2016 asking that it brief the Committee. Cerberus confirmed receipt of the correspondence but has not yet replied substantively to the Committee.
40. **Ask members:** if they are content to forward the research paper to the Committee for Finance and personnel and also Bell and Company for information.

Agenda Item 8 – Consultation: Early Closure of the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation to Onshore Wind 2016

41. Inform members: papers for this item include:

- a copy of correspondence from the Ulster Farmers' Union to the Minister (**page 153**)

42. Inform members: the Committee had asked for either a briefing by officials or a written update from officials if they have not yet engaged appropriately with the small scale wind representatives. As yet, no paper has been received from the Department.

Agenda Item 9: EU Matters Newsletter

43. Inform members: the latest Newsletter is at **page 156**.

44. Ask members: if they have any comments.

45. Ask members: if they are content to note.

Agenda item 10: Forward Work Programme

46. Inform members: the Forward Work Programme is at **page 163**.

47. Inform members: a first draft of the Committee's Legacy Report will be available for consideration on 16th February.

48. Inform members: the Going for Growth concurrent meeting was proving impossible to arrange due to unavailability of officials' from both departments at the same time. The Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development has suggested that a concurrent approach is not necessarily required under the circumstances and its members are content to receive a separate update from DARD officials.

49. Ask members: if they are content to receive a separate briefing on Going for Growth.

50. Advise members: the Prince's Trust manifesto was issued to members in yesterday's members' information email at the request of a Committee Member (Máirtín Ó Muilleoiri).

51. **Ask members:** if they are content to add this as a substantive item for consideration at next week's meeting.
52. **Remind members:** the Department informed the Committee in September that it would consult with the Committee in late Autumn 2015 in relation to the review of the Strategic Energy Framework and that a wider public consultation would take place at that time.
53. **Advise members:** there is a written briefing scheduled for 8th March for a 'Refocused Energy Strategy 2015-2020'.
54. **Ask members:** if they are content to ask the Department to provide an update for next week's meeting outlining progress with the review to date and reasons for the delay and informing the Committee when public consultation is expected to take place.
55. **Ask members:** if they are content with the remainder of the Forward Work Programme.

Agenda Item 11 – Correspondence

Inquiry into Building a United Community

56. **Inform members:** correspondence regarding the Inquiry, from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister, is at **page 49 of Tabled Papers**.
57. **Ask members:** if they are content to respond that the Committee has not undertaken scrutiny in relation to good relations and Together: Building a United Community.

Agenda Item 13 - Any Other Business

58. **Inform members:** there are no additional items of business.
59. **Ask members:** if they have any additional items of business.

Agenda Item 14 – Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

60. **Inform members:** the next Committee meeting will take place on **Tuesday 9th February 2016 at 10am, in Room 29, Parliament Buildings**.