

WEEKLY BUSINESS REVIEW
Monday 4 October 2021 @ 2:00pm
A G E N D A

1. Apologies
2. Matters arising
3. Minister's diary
4. Forthcoming Executive and Assembly business
5. Media and presentational issues
6. Fol and EIR requests
7. Chair's business
8. Emerging issues
9. Preparation for weekly stocktake
10. AOB

Action Points

Present: Katrina Godfrey (Chair)
 Andrew Murray
 Julie Thompson
 Declan McGeown
 Sian Kerr
 Áine Gaughran
 Christine McCotter
 Lindsay Rainey (note taker)

Apologies

| Agenda Item No. | Action Required | Officer Responsible |
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| 2. | <p>Matters Arising Andrew and Declan to discuss the assessment of affordable staffing linked to the Reservoirs Act.</p> <p>Andrew to follow up on the decision on Clandeboye planning issues.</p> | <p>Andrew Declan</p> <p>Andrew</p> |
| 3. | <p>Minister's diary Sian to check out arrangements for the forthcoming visit to the Narrow Water Bridge site</p> | <p>Sian</p> |
| 4. | <p>Forthcoming Executive and Assembly business Katrina noted that the Infrastructure Committee meeting on Wednesday 6th October would focus on October Monitoring and that Declan and Susan would attend. The Executive would also meet this week.</p> | |

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| <p>5.</p> | <p>Media and presentational issues</p> <p>Áine discussed the various topics that may require media briefing in the coming weeks, including DVA, Living With Water and COP26.</p> <p>Katrina asked Áine to prepare a submission for the Minister setting out the framework, principles and proposed approach to more proactive media engagement, reflecting the Minister’s request at stocktake.</p> | <p>Áine</p> |
| <p>7.</p> | <p>Chair’s business</p> <p>Katrina provided an update from the recent PSS meeting, including discussions in relation to budgets, Energy Strategy, MoU between TEO and DoF, NSMC meetings and COVID.</p> <p>Katrina also drew attention to the publication of the Irish Government’s NDP earlier today and to its commitments relating to the Shared Island Fund. She and Declan would discuss further</p> <p>Katrina noted that a meeting of the Senior Officials’ Group on Infrastructure and Investment would take place this week and would include a presentation from Louth CoCo on Narrow Water Bridge. Andrew confirmed that John Irvine would be in attendance.</p> <p>The ECNI-led seminar was discussed with colleagues finding it extremely valuable. The importance of high quality Equality Screening was stressed as was the need to ensure that screening outcomes were published. As part of in-year monitoring, Sian would seek assurance that all relevant business plan commitments had been screened and that the outcomes were documented and available.</p> <p>Katrina would raise with perm sec colleagues the point made by ECNI at the workshop around screening of NICS-wide Covid policies.</p> | <p>Katrina</p> <p>Sian</p> <p>Katrina</p> |
| <p>8.</p> | <p>Emerging issues</p> <p>Andrew indicated that he would provide an update to the Minister on the Ballynahinch by-pass, working closely with Finance and Transport Policy Directorates.</p> <p>Andrew provided updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the recent, very constructive Narrow Water Bridge meeting which he had co-chaired; • temporary unavailability of motorway | <p>Andrew</p> |

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| | <p>telephones;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the arrangements for transporting an abnormal load; a retrospective planning application in Newcastle; works to drainage culverts and associated communication with relevant stakeholders, and the next round of meetings to consult with councils under the Roads Order <p>It was agreed that Andrew should make the Minister aware of the commencement of the autumn round of Council meetings.</p> <p>Andrew advised that the recent increase in AQs and correspondence cases was impacting on delivery. It was agreed that this work is inescapable and that other work would have to be carefully prioritised.</p> <p>Julie provided an update on the current position regarding the private bus operator sector. She advised that input from DfE is still awaited.</p> <p>With in-person events now resuming, the need to continue to ensure adherence to the lobbying provisions in the Functioning of Government Bill was stressed. Sian would discuss with Private Office.</p> <p>Declan provided updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future Relations Programme Board meeting; COVID Recovery Plan, G3 meeting; and DfI New Ways of Working G3 meeting. | <p>Andrew</p> <p>Sian</p> |
| 9. | <p>Preparation for weekly stocktake</p> <p>Katrina reminded everyone that stocktake was by way of written updates this week.</p> <p>She also reminded everyone of the need to proactively monitor all Ministerial commitments to ensure delivery.</p> | <p>G3s</p> <p>G3s</p> |
| 10. | <p>AOB</p> <p>Katrina advised that, on behalf of the Minister, she had attended a very constructive meeting with Ormeau Road traders in relation to the proposals for BRT2.</p> | |
| | <p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting would take place on Monday 11 October at 2pm, chaired by Julie.</p> | Lindsay |

