

Strategic Investment Board

Interim Chief Executive's Report – May 2010

ISNI 3

SIB briefed representatives from the Scottish Executive on the DTS. They were impressed by its potential. They would like to investigate the possibility of using it to track the implementation of PSAs as well as infrastructure projects. We then demonstrated the system to senior staff from Belfast City Council who would also like to implement something similar.

The first reports from the DTS will be ready to send to Assembly members next week. However, we first need to consider how to work with Departments to obtain support for their distribution.

Work is progressing well with the construction of an Energy Model for NI that can be used by all Departments.

A new piece of work is underway modelling the demand for libraries and comparing this with their current location.

The Scottish Futures Trust has asked Edgar Morgenrath to brief their staff on his work identifying the economic return on investment in infrastructure. This request arose from the very successful funding seminar.

Projects & Programmes

MLK

OFMDFM has sent a submission to ministers recommending that the PDU continues to work in its current form and that the establishment of a Development Corporation should await clarity on the availability of funding.

Kyle Alexander and his team have now moved into their new offices at the Maze.

The PDU bid, in the June Monitoring round, for £1.366m to complete the remedial works on the site. Unless this bid is successful the work may either slow or have to halt until funds are available.

Desertcreat

The Business Case is now with the two Departments for their consideration. Colin McCrossand met the new Minister for Justice who was very supportive. A decision on DHSSPS involvement is still awaited.

Department of Justice (DoJ)

Pat O'Neill and I will shortly meet the DoJ board with a view to establishing whether there are other projects, beyond Desertcreat, prisons and FSNI, where they may seek SIB's support.

Lisanelly

Surveys are ongoing. Six schools have now agreed to meet the design team. Hazel Jones will brief the board in detail today.

Derry City of Culture Bid

The draft bid is being reviewed and polished. The bid team have organised a range of supporting events that are proving very popular. Fiona Kane and Michael Donnelly will brief the Board in detail today.

I attended a dinner and seminar at which Lord Bichard spoke on his 'Total Place' initiative. This work has many resonances with the approach being taken to renewal and regeneration in London ~ Derry.

Magilligan Prison

The Outline Business Case will be complete by next month.

Stadia

Pat and I met with the DCAL Permanent Secretary and her team and agreed that a submission should go to the Minister asking whether he wishes dual-sport stadia options to be further considered. It is our view that, without such consideration, the options appraisal may be open to criticism.

BMC

Work on the new building is ahead of schedule.

TQSP

There have been six expressions of interest in the Operator Contract.

ESA

The ongoing lack of agreement on the establishment of ESA is causing difficulties in terms of effective procurement. ESA was to be a centre of procurement excellence, replacing those in the ELBs. Bill is working with DE and CPD to establish an education sector COPE as an alternative.

Shankhill Greenway

The economic appraisal has been completed and it is clear funding will be a significant issue.

Social Clauses Toolkit

CPD are being very supportive and are working with Mary on ensuring the use of the toolkit across all construction projects. Des Armstrong (Director CPD) is keen that the principles should be extended to the supply of services.

Governance, Finance & Administration

June Monitoring

This will be covered in the Finance Report.

Report & Accounts

The NIAO auditors have been here for two weeks and expect to complete their work within a few days. It is intended, subject to the arrangement of Audit Committee meetings, to sign off the accounts on 11 June.