Minutes of a Board Meeting of Strategic Investment Board Limited

Held at 10.00am on Thursday 11th April 2017 at
FinTrU House
Gasworks Business Park
1 Cromac Avenue
Belfast

Present: Gerry McGinn (GMcG)(Chair)(Items 1-20 only)

Danny McSorley (DMcS)
Duncan McCausland (DMcC)
Kathryn Thomson (KT)
Brett Hannam (BH)

In attendance: Gregor Hamilton (GH)

Ronan O'Hara (ROH)(Items 1-18 only)

Martin Spollen (MS)

Johann Gallagher (Item 20 only) Jacqueline Fearon (Item 20 only)

Apologies: Marie Therese McGivern (MTM)

Declarations of interest

1. The usual declarations of interest were taken as read.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

- 2. The minutes of the March 2017 board meeting were approved, subject to a correction
- 3. KT sought clarification on the issue around derogations referred to in the minutes. BH explained that SIB had been granted certain derogations from normal procedures, allowing it to

approve its own business cases in respect of certain matters, and that these derogations required annual renewal. If they were not renewed this would impede SIB's business.

4. GMcG noted the reference at item 8 of the minutes to updating HR policies and procedures. He noted that not only the number of employees but also the wide range of types of employment used by SIB could create risks. DMcC suggested that the HR implications of the growth in staff numbers could be considered when reviewing the organizational structure in September. GMcG noted that while the matter could be dealt with as an audit issue, audit would only check whether the policies had been followed, not review which policies were in place. It was agreed that the matter should be considered at board level in September.

5. GMcG noted that he would bring the board skills register to the May board meeting.

6. DMcC asked if Scott Wilson had taken up the role of SRO. BH said this was still under consideration but the eventual decision would depend on the nature of the role.

Chairman's and Directors' Business

7. GMcG noted that the appointment of new directors remained stalled.

Chief Executive's Report, ISNI Report, AMU Report

8. BH took the contents of the Chief Executive's report as read. He noted by way of addition/update:-

RADAR: BH had sought an update on progress from PSNI.

Income and Expenditure: BH circulated a note showing the updated position as at 2016/17 year end. KT asked that the Income and Expenditure note be put on MinutePad.

<u>Cole Report:</u> BH explained that he had attended a meeting with other UK infrastructure bodies and had discussed *inter alia* the implications of the Cole Report on structural problems with the Edinburgh Schools PPP project. He briefly summarized the background and the findings of the report, He noted the increased priority now being given to preventative and other maintenance in Scotland, and explained that he would be meeting the Head of CPD. It was agreed that BH

should keep the board updated on the outcome of his discussions with CPD and any actions arising.

- 9. KT requested circulation of the final Draft Investment Strategy. MS agreed to action this.
- 10. In response to a query from KT, BH explained that the Urban Villages programme proceeded apace, irrespective of the transfer in budgetary responsibility.
- 11. KT noted the temporary appointment of Bryan Gregory at Maze Long Kesh.
- 12. KT sought further detail from BH on the assistance requested by Belfast City Council.
- 13. DMcS noted the steps being taken to try to secure funding for Strule from the shared education budget under the Fresh Start initiative.
- 14. DMcC noted the discussions around appointing a junior project manager for Desertcreat.
- 15. DMcC noted the work being done with DoJ on Tackling Paramilitary Activity.
- 16. GMcG asked for an update on the SIB Review. BH said the next stage was an online survey of "customers" and that the opportunity had been afforded to input to the questions in the survey.
- 17. MS spoke to the quarterly ISNI update. He drew attention in particular to completion of the Magherafelt bypass, and to progress on hospitals and social housing. He noted that the legal challenge to the A6 project had been unsuccessful and that work had now started on site, which should be complete by 2019/20. MS explained that the OJEU had now been issued to appoint fund managers for the NI Investment Fund. He described the work undertaken with the Department for International Trade to identify a list of potential private sector projects which would be suitable for foreign investment. DMcC asked for an update on progress with the Strangford Ferry. MS said he understood work was ongoing to fix the landing ramp.
- 18. In SW's absence, ROH drew attention to a number of particular items from the AMU report. He noted in particular the substantial progress made in 2016/17.

Report from Remuneration Committee

19. GMcG reported on the proceedings of the Remuneration Committee. He explained that the committee had focused on three main matters:

Formal approval of decisions made out of committee

Pay Remit

Internal Trawls

Update from Staff Survey Advisory Group

20. Johann Gallagher explained the background to the establishment of the Staff survey Advisory Group and the purposes for which it had been established. She gave a brief recap of the staff survey results

Jacqueline Fearon summarized the proposals which the advisory group had reached from an analysis of the survey results.

DMcS asked for the presentation to be uploaded to MinutePad.

Education Authority Strategic Infrastructure Planning Model

21. MS and Paul McWilliams gave a presentation on the infrastructure planning model they had been working on for EA.

Quarterly Reports and Dashboards and Report on Compliance with Ministerial Letter of Expectation

- 22. BH explained that the purpose of the Quarterly reports was to ensure that the board had access to complete information on the full range of SIB's activities and the projects we were involved with. He emphasized that where there was any particular matter which he thought required to be drawn to the board's specific intention he would always do so in the Chief Executive's Report.
- 23. DMcS noted the reference to "occasional" engagement with school principals at Strule. BH explained that this was with specific reference to the listed items. There was of course regular formal engagement on the project overall.
- 24. The board noted the approach to GP Out of Hours.
- 25. DMcC noted the increased costs in relation to the 3PD programme. BH explained that these were funded by the Department. BH explained the input being provided by SIB into the DoH of 3PD.

26. DMcC asked why Belfast Transport Hub had apparently become cheaper. BH explained that this was largely because a proposal to build a third line had now been omitted and partly because the optimism bias was reduced as the project progressed.

27. The board noted the increased amount of work being done with local councils. BH said that SIB was able to bring a unique perspective which assisted local authorities. DMcS agreed that there was scope for SIB to add value at a strategic level.

28. The board noted the positive outcome of the Education Authority project, and the continuing growth of the Strategic Support Unit. DMcC suggested a presentation from the SSU would be helpful.

29. It was noted that Urban Villages could now be removed from the risk register.

Chairman

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

| Reference | Action | Responsible | Timing |
|-----------|--|-------------|--------------------|
| 17/2/003 | Board to discuss SIB organizational structure. | вн | September meeting. |
| 16/3/003 | Discuss Skills Register | GMcG | May Meeting |