

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD LTD
HELD ON 17th NOVEMBER 2020
VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE**

Present: Gerry McGinn (GMcG) - Chair
Duncan McCausland (DMcC)
Danny McSorley (DMcS)
Marie Therese McGivern (MTM)
Brett Hannam (BH)
Kathryn Thomson (KT)

Minute Taker: Helen McNeill

Apologies: None

Declaration of Interests: There were no new declarations of interest.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (October 2020)

1. The Board approved the minutes of the October meeting, subject to an amendment to paragraph 3 (the month should be changed to September).

Chairman and Directors' Business

2. *Staff Conference:* The SIB online staff conference will take place on 26th and 27th November. All Board members are welcome to attend. GMcG has agreed to conduct a Q&A session with (retired HOCS) Sir David Sterling. This will pick up on some of the points raised in the recent NIAO report (Capacity and Capability in the NI Civil Service).
3. *Strategy Day Pre-Reading:* GMcG noted that a number of reports will be recommended as pre-reading for Board Strategy day in January 2021. (NIAO Report: Capacity and Capability in the NICS, NIAO Report: Delivery of Major Capital Projects, PAC Report: Delivery of Major Capital Projects, SIB Leadership Structure Proposal) It would be helpful to include these in the induction pack for the new Board members who will be recruited following the competition later in 2021.
4. *Chair & Board Recruitment:* GMcG gave an update on his discussions with TEO in his capacity as current Chair. It was still expected that the Chair's competition would begin in early 2021.

5. *Committee Appointments:* GMcG will send the formal letter of appointment and Board/audit committee terms of reference to Kathryn Thomson and Danny McSorley.
6. *Leadership Allowance:* BH informed the Board that TEO hoped to issue a determination shortly in respect of the Leadership Allowance.
7. *Brexit:* Duncan McCausland updated the Board on some of the discussion from the Non-Executive Chairs' forum on Brexit that he had recently attended.
8. Members briefly discussed points which arose from the DfC Strategy event that they had attended before the Board meeting.

CEO Report

9. The report was taken as read, and the CEO noted the following supplementary points that had arisen since its completion:

Project Stratum: The DfE Minister would shortly sign the contract for the project.

ISNI: The CEO noted that Martin Spollen had met the Permanent Secretary of DfI to update her on ISNI. A similar meeting has been scheduled with the TEO Ministers' special advisors. This is expected to lead, in due course, to the Executive's endorsement of the plans for the development of the strategy.

Business Plan approval: TEO has approved SIB's 2020/21 business plan.

10. The Chair invited comments or questions from the Board members on the CEO report.
11. Danny McSorley welcomed the development of a stakeholder strategy and reiterated the importance of engaging the public on ISNI. He urged that external consultation be carried out at an early stage. He welcomed the internal engagement which gave the chance for teams from SIB to contribute to the development of the strategy.
12. The Board discussed the evidence given to the PAC on the proposed Infrastructure Commission.
13. KT referred to the CEO report in respect of the proposed mutualisation of the Housing Executive, and reflected on the wider implications this may have for other policies across the Executive in the near future.
14. D McC spoke about the possible resource implications for SIB on two large planned projects: changes to the Housing Executive and 'Green Growth'. BH confirmed that the projects are still at an assessment stage and SIB's roles in them will be clarified before the projects come closer to formal initiation.
15. The Board agreed that other areas of growth in SIB work are likely to include data analysis and regeneration, particularly in light of the economic effects of the pandemic.

16. The Board noted the completion of the South Lakes Leisure Centre and congratulated Andrew Stevenson.
17. Board members discussed the potential impact of the challenge to the Ministerial planning decision for the N/S Interconnector, and assessed the possible effect on other planning decisions for large infrastructure projects, including Casement Park and Arc21
18. In answer to a question from the Chair, BH reported that the NI Hub is again operational.
19. The Board noted the considerable administrative effort that had been required to facilitate the UU FTC loan.
20. The Board noted the announcement from the Finance Minister on the planned reform of the Procurement Board's membership.
21. The Board noted the intention of the Minister of Infrastructure to grant planning permission for the stadium, recognising that work still remains to secure the required funding.
22. The CEO reported that a stakeholder engagement plan is being developed by the SIB Communications Director and that its implementation will be a key objective in of the 2021/22 business plan.
23. The Board reviewed the status SIB-supported projects with an amber or red assessment.

ISNI and AMU Reports

24. The Board noted that a legal challenge has been received in respect of the AMU framework competition.
25. DMcS recalled a reference to a report on St Lucia barracks and asked whether this could be circulated. [Secretary's Note: It subsequently transpired that the reference had been erroneous and there was no such report.]

Finance Report and Media Pack

26. The Board noted the expenditure data and January monitoring figures presented in the finance report.

Private Meeting

27. The Board held a private meeting that focused on the NIAO report on capacity and capability in the NICS and the report of the DfI Ministerial Panel on Infrastructure.
28. During the meeting, the Board took a report on its effectiveness self-assessment and discussed the findings.

Board Strategy Day Preparation

29. The Board discussed the objectives for the Strategy Day in January.
30. The Chair noted that, if government guidance permits, he would prefer the Board to hold a face-to-face meeting for the Strategy day. KT offered Cultra Manor as a possible location. The Chair thanked KT for this helpful offer. He noted that the final arrangements would depend on the prevailing government guidance and would be settled after Christmas.

Chair

Actions

Actions from Previous Meetings

Reference	Action	Responsible	Expected Completion
1/20/3	Record training by Board members in personal logs	Board members	Deferred to March 2021
1/20/5	Write to Mark Browne re SLT proposal	Chair and CEO	TEO clearance awaited
10/20/1	Send Committee ToRs to DMCS and KT	Chair	December 2020
11/20/1	Determine final arrangements for Board Strategy Day	Chair	January 2021