

**Minutes of a Meeting of
Strategic Investment Board Ltd.**

14th October 2014

Cloona House, Colin Town, Belfast.

Present

Gerry McGinn (Chair) Chris Thompson, Geraldine McAteer, Marie Therese McGivern, Geraldine McAteer, Frank Hewitt, Bro McFerran, Brett Hannam.

In attendance

Martin Spollen, Michael Donnelly, Helen McNeill (minute taker)

Apologies

Gregor Hamilton.

Declarations of Interest:

Frank Hewitt declared his interest in Translink (in case of discussion arising about Belfast Transport Hub) and Marie Therese McGivern declared her interest in Bombardier (in case of discussion arising about waste infrastructure projects).

Minutes of the September Board meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Chairman's Business

The Chairman reported on the recently held ISNI stakeholder dialogue dinner (energy sector) and the SIB staff conference. Both events were of real value to SIB's internal and external engagement. Other Board members had received feedback from guests who attended the ISNI dialogue indicating that the event was very well received.

The Chairman reminded members that the Board away-day will take place on 4th December. An agenda is being compiled. Board members who wish to make any suggestions for this should send them to the Chairman as soon as possible. The Chairman will issue an invitation to HOCS and OFMDFM representatives.

Chief Executive's Report

BH spoke to his report, highlighting the following projects:

- Desertcreat: The three services' Accounting Officers have been asked to attend a Steering Group meeting on 29th October. The Chief Constable is expected to outline his position on the future of the project
- Lisanelly: BH reported that steady progress has been made and the SRO has acknowledged that SIB staff are continuing to make good progress on the development of the project.
- Primary Care
- ESA: With accelerated passage, the enabling legislation is expected to go through the Assembly to create a single Education Authority.

HEaT ProgrammeTwo Board members expressed concern for the number of projects which are currently affected by the economic and political climate, and how this might change the risk profile of SIB's project portfolio. BH responded by reminding members that a large majority of SIB projects are on time and on budget.

The Board considered the possibility, raised by OFMDFM, of co-opting an NICS Finance Director on to the SIB Audit Committee to provide additional accounting experience. The Board agreed that this would be considered further by the Audit Committee.

ISNI Report

The ISNI report was taken. Martin Spollen circulated for information a draft timeline for ISNI 4.

Work is continuing with keeping the delivery tracking system up to date. SIB is working closely with CPD to develop a Procurement Guidance Note (PGN). This will be a major step forward and is likely to give rise to a significant improvement in the visibility of opportunities for the construction industry.

The next stakeholder engagement dinner and dialogue is planned for the first week of December, and will focus on market demand for office space and government's role – if any – in this sector.

AMU Report

The AMU report was taken.

A DAO letter has been issued by DFP regarding property controls. This will enable the AMU and DFP to ensure that no new leaseholds are entered into without business case approval.

The Seatem House purchase has recently completed. The Board commended the AMU team on this very successful deal. The Property Reform Programme team have now re-located to Northland House, where they will work alongside DFP colleagues.

Report from Strategy Committee

The Chairman reported to Board that at the meeting there had been a general discussion of the current political and economic climate and how it might affect SIB's projects and risk profile.

The Strategy Committee had agreed a draft schedule and plan for the delivery of the next ISNI, (circulated) which was closely aligned with the timetable for the production of the next Programme for Government. The intention is to provide Ministers with evidence-based scenarios that will enable them to take informed decisions on investment priorities.

Board Self-Assessment

Bro McFerran reported that although one assessment form was still to be submitted, he was content to report a summary of the results of the self-assessment exercise.

One point identified in the assessment was that contact between the Board and the Executive should be increased. A suggestion had also been made that more Permanent Secretaries might be extended invitations to attend Board meetings. There was a short discussion about how engagement between SIB staff and the Board might be improved. The results of the assessment indicated that the Board structure meets the current and likely future needs of the organisation.

The collated results of the Board self assessment are detailed in a separate attachment to these minutes.

Quarterly Project Reports and Dashboards

Brett Hannam highlighted projects which had made significant progress in the last quarter:

- The Siege Heroes Museum: The £3.7m construction was due to be launched next week.
- Waterfront Hall: Following planning approval, the commencement of construction is imminent.
- The HLF have made a grant of c£12m to HMS Caroline; and
- The Ebrington car park has been completed on time and to budget.

After discussion, the Board noted the contents of the quarterly reports and the dashboard paper.

Finance Report

The finance report was noted.

The 4.4% June Monitoring cut had been factored into the planned expenditure set out in the finance report.

Media Pack

The Board noted the contents of the media pack for October.

Any Other Business

There was no further business.

Colin Town Centre Presentation and Visit

The Board was joined by the Chair and Chief Executive of the Colin Town Centre, Brenda Burns and representatives of the Integrated design Team.

Brenda Burns made a short presentation setting out recent progress with the Colin Town Centre Project and putting it the context of the wider Urban Villages Programme. There followed a presentation by the Design team, a discussion with the Colin Neighbourhood Partnership team and a short tour of the area.

Date of next meeting

11th November 2014