Minutes of a Board Meeting of
Strategic Investment Board Limited

Held at 10.00am on Tuesday 6th September 2016 at
Carleton House
Gasworks Business Park
1 Cromac Avenue
Belfast

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

In attendance:
Gregor Hamilton (GH)
Scott Wilson (SW)
Martin Spollen (MS)
Louise Millen (LM) (Item 5 only)
Paul Wickens (PW) (Items 9-11 only)
Derek Kennedy (DK) (Items 9-11 only)

Apologies:
Frank Hewitt (FH)

Declarations of interest

1. The usual declarations of interest were taken as read. In the light of the items potentially open for discussion KT noted interest in NMNI; DMcS noted interest in DCAL Safety and Technical Group for Casement Park; and MTM noted interest in Bombardier (and receipt by Belfast Metropolitan College of funding as part of the Urban Villages Programme).
Minutes of Previous Meeting

2. The minutes of the August 2016 board meeting were approved.

Chairman’s and Directors’ Business

3. GMcG asked for any outstanding board assessment responses to be returned as soon as possible.

4. GMcG noted the contents of the letter re the “Boardroom Apprentice” Scheme. He noted that the board had already discussed this at its December 2015 meeting and (while broadly supportive) had identified a number of concerns to be addressed before committing to the scheme. He proposed that he should offer to meet to discuss these concerns. The board agreed this was the correct approach.

Report from Audit Committee

5. DMcC reported on the Audit Committee held immediately before the board meeting. He explained that the board had:

- discussed the “Sources of Risk Assurance” paper;
- reviewed the hospitality register;
- received an update on the inquiry into alleged fraud; and
- discussed a recent mobile phone scamming incident.

6. DMcC asked LM to summarise the position on accounting for FTC loans which the Audit Committee had discussed earlier.

7. The board discussed the issue at some length. GMcG noted that SIB had at all times acted properly and sought to assist the Executive.

8. BH noted that NIAO had attended the Audit Committee meeting and had expressed their agreement with the PwC position, and were prepared to discuss the matter with DoF. In the light of this he proposed that he and LM would meet DoF again CT asked that the board be kept
informed of developments before the next board meeting. DMcC said he would be happy to attend meetings with DoF if required.

Reform of Property Management

9. PW and DK joined the meeting and gave a short presentation on RPM. PW explained background of Enterprise Shared Services more generally, and where RPM fitted in to the broader context. He explained that the target was to obtain revenue savings. DK spoke about estate rationalisation. He explained that the savings were to be derived from 17 projects. Four OBCs were currently under development. Going forward, he noted that RPM was now specifically referenced in the programme for Government,

10. DMcS noted the proportion of accommodation in Belfast. He suggested that it would be more economic to locate in regional areas.. DK agreed that centralisation of services did not necessarily mean centralisation in Belfast- for example he noted there were 17 different customer facing buildings in Omagh.

11. DK said that it was intended to adopt a hard-charging model so as to encourage realization of the potential savings.

Chief Executive’s Report, ISNI Report, AMU Report

12. BH updated the board on some of the projects referred to in the Chief Executive’s Report. In particular:

-Desertcreat: The DoJ and DoH permanent secretaries had approved the proposal to split into distinct projects, subject to single programme oversight.

-Arc21: BH had held a useful meeting with the First Minister’s SPAD.

-Buy Social: Sinn Fein had indicated that they would be taking a paper to the Executive to get support at the highest level for Buy Social. The Finance Minister had indicated that he would like DoF to take a direct interest in promoting it.
-Urban Villages: BH explained that the changes in the staffing/delivery model for the programme would put civil servants rather than SIB staff in control the interface with the relevant departments and their processes.

-Energywise:

13. CT noted the reference in the report to the York Street interchange.

14. SW spoke to the AMU Report. He noted in particular:

- NI Investment Fund: The ONS position on classification was expected to be known in mid-October. There was some uncertainty over the extent of EIB’s role in the light of Brexit.

- Invest to Save: Proposals for an accelerated Estate Investment Programme and Wind Energy Investment programme had been well received by the Finance Minister and DoF officials.

-Land Disposals; The Finance Minister had asked for and received information on 10 “blocked” sites that could be released for housing and development.

SW noted that the emphasis from DoF was increasingly on trying to find assets which could be utilised for development to broader economic benefit, rather than simply sold to raise capital.

15. MS spoke to the ISNI report. He particularly noted the announcement on the A6 Randalstown to Castledawson dualling scheme.

**Investment Strategy**

16. MS tabled an abbreviated draft of the ISNI document. He explained that the substantive sections of the document were out with the relevant departments for their approval. He explained that following previous discussions with the board the previous seven “pillars” had been reduced to three, and the number of sub pillars also reduced. The ISNI was in two sections. The first section set out the general principles which underlay the approach MS briefly explained these principles. He noted that they were linked to the Programme for Government. The second section was concerned with the projects which were planned in each investment sector.

17. In response to queries from GMcG MS explained the role of the Strategic Infrastructure Oversight Board to be chaired by FM and dFM.
18. DMcC noted that there was no mention in the abbreviated document of Maze/Long Kesh.
19. CT asked whether it would be possible for board members to receive a copy of the full draft document. MS confirmed that it would be circulated in the next few days, to allow discussion at the next meeting. It was agreed that board members could submit any comments or suggested amendments directly to MS in the interim.

**Finance Report and Media Pack**

20. The Finance Report and Media Pack were noted.

**New Non-Executive Directors**

21. GMcG reported that the panel review meeting was to take place on 27th September.

**Next Meeting**

22. BH suggested that the next meeting scheduled for 11 October should be held at Ebrington. The board agreed.