

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT SECRETARY GROUP MEETING  
HELD ON FRIDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2008  
IN LESLEY EXCHANGE,  
AT 8.45 AM**

**Present:** Bruce Robinson - Chair  
Doreen Brown  
Will Haire  
Barney McGahan  
Aideen McGinley  
Malcolm McKibbin  
Andrew McCormick  
Leo O'Reilly  
Stephen Peover  
Stephen Quinn  
Paul Sweeney

**In attendance:** Adryan Bell - Items 5 & 6  
Richard Pengelly - Item 7  
Rosalie Flanagan  
John McMillen

Pauline Boyle – Secretary

1. **Apologies:** Oswyn Paulin  
Paul Priestly  
Alan Shannon  
Stephen Grimason

2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 5 December 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 December were agreed.

3. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

4. **Executive & Assembly Update**

Rosalie Flanagan updated on the two Executive meetings which took place on Monday 8 and Thursday 11 December. An additional Executive meeting would take place on Monday 15 December ahead of Assembly preliminary meeting at 12 noon.

## 5. **Workplace 2010**

Following a presentation by Adryan Bell and a good discussion the paper on SCS workspace was noted and generally agreed. Three issues were raised as follows:

- (a) On Workplace 2010, DSD has still concerns on the space standards. Bruce Robinson agreed that this needed to be picked up.

**(Action: Workplace 2010 team)**

- (b) Re Workplace 2010 procurement. In response to questions on the current status, Bruce Robinson noted that the timetable and approach will become clearer in a month or two.

**(Action: Update to PSG in due course Workplace 2010 team)**

- (c) Stephen Quinn asked the programme board to ensure that detailed operational research is undertaken to inform the development of the most appropriate solutions for SCS – Bruce Robinson accepted this.

**(Action: Workplace 2010 Programme Board)**

## 6. **SCS Workspace**

Adryan Bell circulated a paper which included an update and proposals around a city centre business hub on future@work prior to the meeting. Due to time constraints there was limited discussion; however PSG endorsed the direction set out in Adryan's paper particularly the proposal to develop the Causeway Exchange hub and the addendum that such a hub in the Stormont Estate would be extremely useful in the short/medium term.

## 7. **Overview of PEDU**

Richard Pengelly gave a presentation on the background to PEDU which was formally launched on 15 April 2008 by Peter Robinson in a Statement to the Assembly. PEDU would link into the Performance Monitoring arrangements for the PfG and the broad remit would focus on the efficiency agenda and monitoring delivery work with Departments in specific areas to deliver improvement targets. Richard said PEDU has adopted a collaborative approach in its work with Planning Service. This delivery review started on 30 September 2008 and finished on 25 November 2008 at a meeting with Ministers. The Planning Service has drafted an action plan which was endorsed by both Ministers. Progress will be reported to PEDU and will formally be put to Ministers before the summer in 2009. Bruce Robinson thanked Richard for the presentation.

## 8. **Tour de Table**

### Rathlin Island Ferry

Doreen Brown said the investigation on the Rathlin Island Ferry Service was published on Wednesday 10 December 2008.

### Energy Price Reviews

Stephen Quinn briefed PSG on Douglas McIlldoon's report and on forthcoming Energy Price Reviews.

### Education Reform Bill

Will Haire said the Education Reform Bill went through its second reading in the Assembly on Monday 8 December.

### Steps to Work

Aideen McGinley reported on the steps to work contract in Foyle.

### Animal Health/Public Health

Malcolm McKibbin reported on the current feed contamination issue.

### White Paper on Reform

Barney McGahan said the White Paper on Reform was published on Wednesday 10 December.

### OGC Authorised Gateway Hub

Bruce Robinson reported Central Procurement Directorate are close to getting authorised status on the Gateway hub. The OGC Review Team commented that the application was one of the best that they had considered.

**PAULINE BOYLE**  
**17 December 2008**