

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT SECRETARY GROUP MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY, 27 JUNE 2008
IN THE GLASSHOUSE, STORMONT CASTLE
AT 8.30 AM**

Present: Sir Nigel Hamilton – Chair
Doreen Brown
Will Haire
Andrew McCormick
Aideen McGinley
Malcolm McKibbin
Leo O'Reilly
Stephen Peover
Bruce Robinson
Alan Shannon
Paul Sweeney

In Attendance: Oswyn Paulin
Stephen Grimason
Neill Jackson
John McMillen
Pauline Boyle - Secretary

1. Apologies: Paul Priestly
Rosalie Flanagan

2. Minutes of Meeting held on Friday 20 June 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June have been circulated. Any comments/amendments to Pauline.

3. Matters Arising

Sir Nigel Hamilton informed colleagues that David Lammey will provide a draft response for him to issue to Richard Thomas on behalf of all Departments in relation to the new model FOI publication scheme which Departments must adopt with effect from 1 January 2009.

4. Executive and Assembly Update

Neill Jackson said the proposed additional Executive meeting did not take place on 26 June. The next meeting will be held on 3 July prior to the Assembly summer recess on 4 July.

5. FOI

Sir Nigel Hamilton asked colleagues to check their Departmental FOI weekly lists and particularly any outstanding requests.

[Action: PSG]

6. **Protocols on Judicial Reviews**

Oswyn Paulin circulated a draft consultation paper which included a pre-action protocol in respect of Judicial Reviews. PSG agreed to copy this to senior colleagues in their Departments who have been directly involved in Judicial Reviews and let Oswyn Paulin have comments by 9 July to enable him to respond by the closing date of 11 July.

[Action: PSG]

7. **Tour de Table**

PAC Report on the Northern Ireland Events Company

Paul Sweeney reported on the KPMG draft on the PAC Report on the Northern Ireland Events Company.

Rural Cottage Holidays

Stephen Quinn said the PAC Report on Rural Cottage Holidays was due to be issued next week.

Ballee

Alan Shannon reported on land at Ballee.

Child Maintenance Bill

Alan reported on the Child Maintenance Bill.

Equal Pay

Leo O'Reilly reported on equal pay for junior grades in the NICS.

Procurement Board

Leo said the next meeting of the Procurement Board will take place on 10 July and he would chair in the absence of the Minister.

Local Boundaries Commissioner

Stephen Peover said Dick Mackenzie would take up the post of Local Boundaries Commissioner on Tuesday 1 July.

NI Environmental Agency

Stephen said the Minister would launch the re-branded Northern Ireland Environment Agency on Tuesday 1 July.

Public Inquiries

Andrew McCormick reported on public inquiries in the Health Service.

JMC

Bruce Robinson reported on his attendance at the first Joint Ministerial Council meeting on Wednesday 18 June in London.

Lord Mayor's Installation Dinner

It was agreed that Paul Simpson and Eddie Rooney would attend the Lord Mayor's Installation Dinner on Saturday 28 June 2008.

Whitehall & Westminster World Civil Service Awards 2008

Sir Nigel Hamilton reminded colleagues that nominations for the Whitehall & Westminster World Civil Service Awards were due in on 4 July.

As this was Sir Nigel Hamilton's last PSG meeting prior to his retirement on 11 July, PSG presented him with a personal gift and wished him very best wishes for the future.

Next PSG Meeting

The next PSG meeting will be held on 4 July to discuss HR issues.

PAULINE BOYLE

30 June 2008