

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT SECRETARY GROUP MEETING  
HELD ON FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 2008  
IN THE GLASSHOUSE, STORMONT CASTLE  
AT 8.45 AM**

**Present:** Nigel Hamilton  
Will Haire  
Gerry Lavery  
Noel Lavery  
Andrew McCormick  
Aideen McGinley  
Stephen Peover  
Paul Priestly  
Bruce Robinson  
Alan Shannon  
Paul Sweeney

**In Attendance:** Rosalie Flanagan  
Debbie Sweeney - Secretary

**1. Apologies:** Stephen Quinn  
Malcolm McKibbin  
Stephen Grimason  
John McMillen  
Oswyn Paulin

**2. Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 18 January 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January were agreed.

**3. Matters Arising**

Celtic Forum

Conor McParland had circulated the outline programme for the event. Sir Nigel said although the finishing time for the event was scheduled at 4.00pm, he would recommend that it finish slightly early to enable colleagues to catch the 4.45pm flight from Cardiff to Belfast.

Invites

IBEC-CBI Dinner

Attendees at the dinner on 6 March would be Will Haire, Aideen McGinley, Rosalie Flanagan, Mary Bunting, Malcolm McKibbin and Stephen Quinn. (Noel Lavery to check if invite for Stephen was received).

**[Action: DETI]**

#### 4. **Executive and Assembly Update**

Rosalie Flanagan updated PSG on the two Executive meetings held on Monday and Thursday.

Rosalie said the outcome of the Budget announcement had received positive media coverage and PSG passed on their thanks to all officials involved over the weekend to ensure the budget was finalised.

#### 5. **FOI**

PSG noted the latest position of FOI issues.

Sir Nigel said he would ask David Lammey to handle the current round-robin request regarding the David Hanson letter.

**[Action: HOCS]**

#### 6. **Role of the CSC in Internal Competitions**

PSG agreed that Sir Nigel, Bruce Robinson and Derek Baker would discuss the status of the CSC Chair of Internal Competitions.

**[Action: HOCS, Bruce Robinson and Derek Baker]**

#### 7. **Tour de Table**

##### Data Protection

Bruce Robinson updated PSG on the security of removable media. He said he was meeting with Bill McCluggage and Chris Thompson to discuss the issue and a note to staff would issue.

**[Action: Bruce Robinson]**

##### Civil Service Live

Sir Nigel referred to Sir Gus' note regarding the Civil Service Live event to be held on 1-3 April. The NICS had been allocated 25 places and it was agreed that each department would forward two names to Bruce from Grade 7 up to take part.

**[Action: PSG/Rosalie Flanagan]**

##### Health Issues

Andrew McCormick said the Minister and Minister Dodds had announced the establishment of a 'European Centre for Connected Health'. The new centre will

take forward the introduction of new technologies to offer a better quality of life to people with long-term conditions.

### DFP Launches

Bruce Robinson said the Best Practice launch and the HR Connect launch had been very successful and well supported.

### Varney Review

Leo O'Reilly agreed to forward broad lines to take in response to the second review exercise.

**[Action: Leo O'Reilly]**

### Animal Health

Gerry Lavery reported on current annual health issues.

### Next Week's PSG

Next week's PSG will be an HR meeting plus a verbal update on the budget and financial prospects.

**DEBBIE SWEENEY**  
**January 2008**