

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT SECRETARY GROUP MEETING  
HELD ON FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2007  
IN CLARE HOUSE  
AT 8.00 AM**

**Present:** Nigel Hamilton  
Will Haire  
Don Hill  
Gerry Lavery  
Barney McGahan  
Aideen McGinley  
Leo O'Reilly  
Stephen Peover  
Paul Priestly  
Stephen Quinn  
David Stirling  
Paul Sweeney

**In Attendance:** Nick Macpherson - Treasury  
Ossie Paulin  
Gary Smyth - Agenda item 6  
Debbie Sweeney - Secretary

**1. Apologies:** Andrew McCormick  
Malcolm McKibbin  
Alan Shannon  
Rosalie Flanagan  
Stephen Grimson  
John McMillen

**2. Minutes of Meeting held on 30 November 2007**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 November were agreed.

**3. Matters Arising**

Celtic Forum

Nigel said the proposed dates for the next Celtic Forum to be held in Cardiff are 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2008.

**[Perm Secs to note]**

**4. Current Developments and Key Issues in Treasury**

Nick Macpherson thanked PSG for inviting him to address the meeting on his first visit to Northern Ireland.

Nick discussed the employment and economic situation in general and the continuing improvement in public services.

Bruce gave PSG and Nick an update on Civil Service Reform in Northern Ireland including the new working methods, new citizen channels, new technological foundations and new working environment.

## 5. **Security of Data**

Bruce said Bill McCluggage was conducting a review into the security of data. He would be producing a questionnaire covering a range of data.

## 6. **Tour de Table**

### Flax Trust Ball

Invites had been received for the Flax Trust Ball on 8 February 2008.

PSG agreed that Malcolm McKibbin, if available, would attend.

Nigel would write to Sister Mary Turley.

**[Action: Nigel Hamilton]**

### Avian Flu

Gerry Lavery updated PSG on the Avian Flu scare.

### Next Week's PSG

PSG on 7 December will be held in the Knockdene Suite of the Stormont Hotel.

It will be an HR meeting followed by a Permanent Secretary meeting with the Civil Service Commissioners, lunch will be included.

**[Perm Secs to note]**

### PSG – 19 December

The last PSG meeting before the Christmas break will be held on 19 December from 8.45am to 10.30am.

**[Perm Secs to note]**