



North/South Ministerial Council  
An Chomhairle Aireachta  
Thuaidh/Theas

# North/South Ministerial Council



2006  
Annual Report



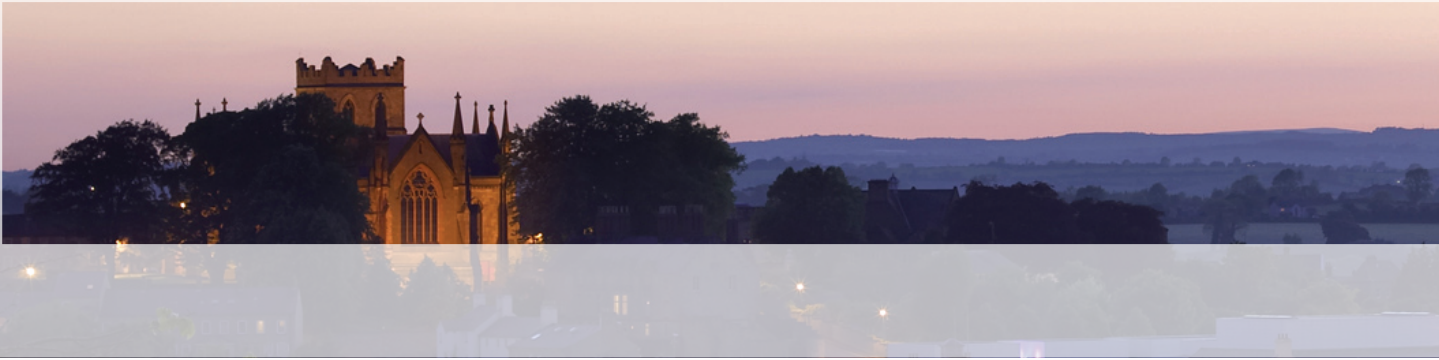
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# Introduction by Joint Secretaries





## Introduction

The North/South Ministerial Council (NSMC) marked its seventh year of operation during 2006. It was a year of consolidation and steady progress.

While formal NSMC Ministerial meetings could not take place due to the suspension of the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly, work to promote mutually beneficial and practical co-operation was progressed through dialogue and meetings between Ministers and officials. The NSMC Joint Secretariat in Armagh continued to play a supportive role in this work, liaising with a wide range of groups and organisations including Government departments, the North/South Bodies, elected representatives and civil society organisations active in cross-border co-operation.

We recall, in particular, the important meeting which took place in Armagh in April 2006 between Prime Minister Tony Blair and Taoiseach Bertie Ahern. The Joint Secretariat was pleased to have contributed to the success of this significant meeting at Heads of Government level.

The six North/South Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland continued to function effectively in delivering a wide range of important public services to the mutual benefit of people in all parts of the island. With the support of the NSMC Joint Secretariat and of their sponsor Departments, the Bodies have worked hard to fulfil their mandates. The terms of office of the Chairpersons and the members of the Boards of the North/South Bodies were extended in December 2006. We deeply appreciate the important contribution that the current Boards and their staff have made to the development of North/South cooperation over the past year.

Much work of considerable mutual benefit has also been taken forward during the year in the other Areas of Co-operation. This included agreement on the improved delivery of health services to cancer patients and on joint efforts to deal with common environmental challenges. Another important step was the conclusion



of arrangements for the opening of the cross-border Centre of Excellence at Middletown, County Armagh, so that operational activities there can commence before the end of 2007. This important facility will be dedicated to improving and enriching the educational opportunities of children and young people who are diagnosed with autistic spectrum disorders.

We take great encouragement from the political developments during the year which have led to the restoration of devolved government and its related institutions in Northern Ireland. We in the Joint Secretariat in Armagh will play our full part in supporting the work of Ministers in the NSMC as they seek to ensure that the Council continues to deliver practical and beneficial outcomes for all the people of this island.

Mary Bunting  
Joint Secretary (North)

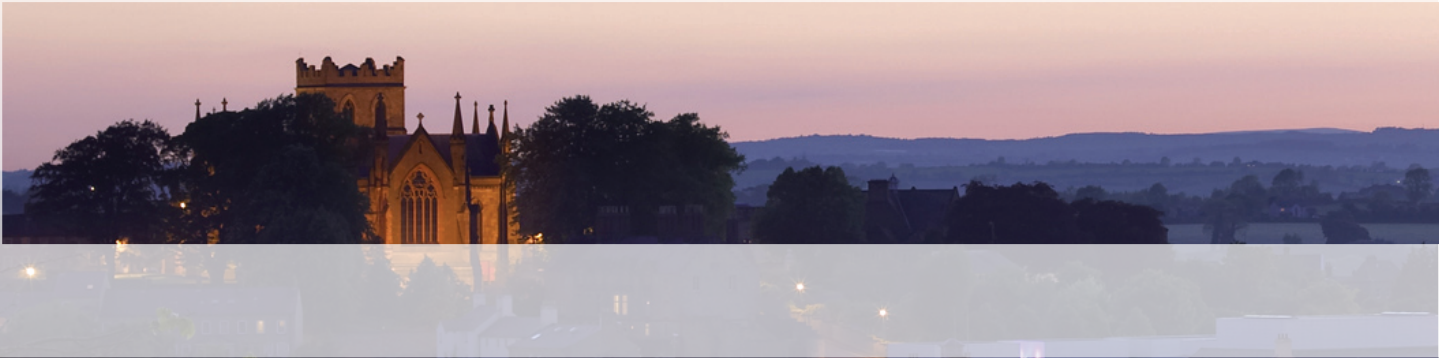
Tom Hanney  
Joint Secretary (South)

Armagh  
July 2007

# Chapter 1

## The North/South Ministerial Council





## Establishment

1.1 The North/South Ministerial Council (NSMC) was established on Thursday 2 December 1999 on the entry into force of the British-Irish Agreement of 8 March 1999, which was signed by the British and Irish Governments as part of the Agreement reached in the Multi-Party Negotiations in Belfast on Good Friday, 10 April 1998 (“the Agreement”). The Agreement stipulates that the North/South Ministerial Council will bring together those with executive responsibilities in Northern Ireland and the Irish Government to develop consultation, co-operation and action within the island of Ireland - including through implementation on an all-island and cross-border basis - on matters of mutual interest and within the competence of each Administration, North and South.

1.2 The NSMC comprises Ministers of the Northern Ireland Administration and the Irish Government, working together to take forward co-operation between both parts of the island to mutual benefit.

## Areas of Operation of the Council

1.3 The Agreement provided that at least 12 subject areas would be identified for co-operation and implementation. North/South co-operation in these areas would be taken forward in two ways - in the case of at least six of them by means of new North/South Implementation Bodies, and in the case of at least six others by means of existing bodies in each jurisdiction separately operating at a cross-border or all-island level.

1.4 The six Areas identified as those in which co-operation would be taken forward by the new North/South Implementation Bodies were:

- Inland Waterways;
- Food Safety;
- Trade and Business Development;
- Special EU Programmes;
- Language (Irish and Ulster-Scots); and
- Aquaculture and Marine Matters.

Aspects of six other Areas were identified as those in which co-operation would be taken forward by existing bodies in each jurisdiction separately (known as the ‘Areas for Co-operation’):

- Agriculture;
- Education;
- Environment;
- Health;
- Transport; and
- Tourism.

1.5 The Irish and British Governments subsequently concluded an Agreement on the establishment of the North/South Bodies on 8 March 1999 (“the Implementation Bodies Agreement”). This set out the functions and structure of the North/South Bodies and the common arrangements applying to them, and was given domestic effect by means of the North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order, 1999, and the British-Irish Agreement Act, 1999. Collectively, these organisations are known as the North/South Bodies, or simply as “the Bodies”.

1.6 The 12 Areas constitute those matters on which the NSMC can take decisions by agreement on (a) policies for implementation separately in each jurisdiction and on (b) policies and actions at an all-island and cross-border level for implementation by the Bodies. Further development of these arrangements is possible by agreement in the Council, and with the specific endorsement of the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Oireachtas, subject to remaining within the competences and responsibilities of the two Administrations.

## Functions of the Council

1.7 The Council carries out a number of functions in accordance with Strand Two of the Agreement. These were set out in the Agreement, as follows:





## Chapter 1 The North/South Ministerial Council

- To exchange information, discuss and consult with a view to co-operation on matters of mutual interest within the competence of both Administrations, North and South;
- To use best endeavours to reach agreement on the adoption of common policies, in areas where there is a mutual cross-border and all-island benefit, and which are within the competence of both Administrations, North and South, making determined efforts to overcome any disagreements;
- To take decisions by agreement on policies for implementation separately in each jurisdiction, in relevant meaningful areas within the competence of both Administrations, North and South; and
- To take decisions by agreement on policies and action at an all-island and cross-border level to be implemented by the North/South Bodies.

### The Formats of Council Meetings

1.8 In the Agreement it says that the NSMC will meet in three different formats. Plenary Format involves the Northern Ireland Executive delegation led by the First Minister and deputy First Minister and the Irish Government delegation led by the Taoiseach and the Tánaiste. The task of the Plenary is to take an overview of co-operation on the island and of the North/South institutions.

1.9 In Institutional Format the NSMC brings together the Northern Ireland Executive represented by the First Minister and deputy First Minister and the Irish Government by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The task of the Institutional Format is to consider institutional and cross-sectoral issues, including issues relating to the European Union, and to resolve any disagreements.

1.10 In Sectoral Format the NSMC oversees co-operation in the agreed 12 Areas. At these meetings, the Irish Government is represented by the Minister responsible for that Area, while the Northern Ireland Administration is represented by two Ministers nominated by the First

Minister and deputy First Minister on a cross-community basis, one normally being the Minister with responsibility for the relevant Area within the Executive. This is in line with the requirements of the Agreement and the Northern Ireland Act 1998 that participation by the Executive in the NSMC must be such as to ensure cross-community involvement.

### Suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly

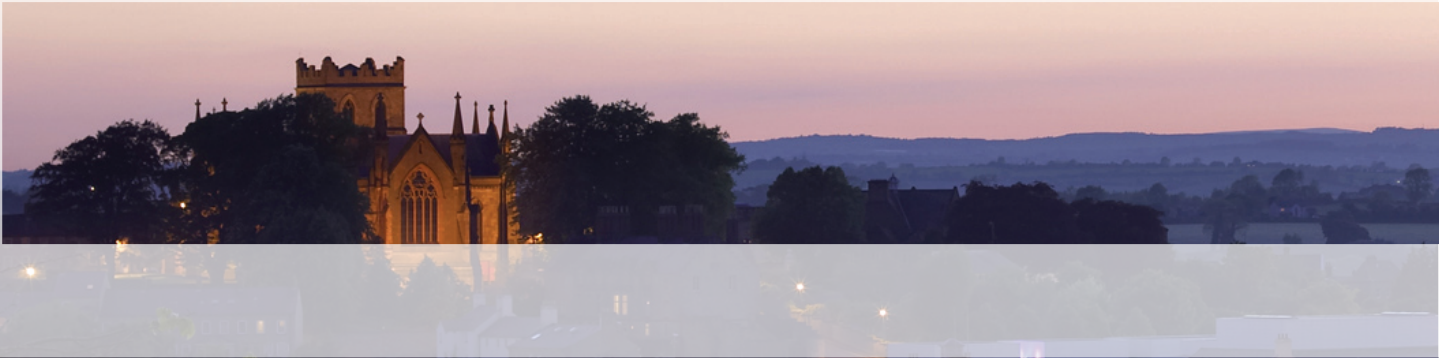
1.11 Following the suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly on 14 October 2002, an agreement between the UK and Irish Governments was made and contained in an Exchange of Notes dated 19 November 2002. This agreement provided a mechanism for decisions to be taken on policies and actions relating to the Bodies during the period of suspension of the Assembly. Interim Procedures were put in place by the NSMC Joint Secretariat for the processing of Ministerial decisions while the arrangements set out in the Exchange of Notes between the Governments applied. Decisions taken in 2006 are set out in Annex 1, and progress in each of the Bodies is outlined in Chapter 2.

1.12 While formal NSMC meetings could not take place during suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly, work to promote mutually beneficial and practical co-operation was progressed through dialogue and meetings between Ministers and officials. This included progressing work of the formal NSMC Areas for Co-operation and the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference (BIIGC). Progress is outlined in Chapter 3.

### North/South Implementation Bodies

1.13 Each of the six North/South Bodies operates on an all-island basis. While having a clear operational remit, all of them function under the overall direction of the NSMC, with accountability lines back, not only to the Council, the Oireachtas and the Northern Ireland Assembly, but also to the Finance and other Departments of government responsible for their funding in each jurisdiction.

The Implementation Bodies are:



- **Waterways Ireland;**
- **The Food Safety Promotion Board (FSPB);**
- **The Trade and Business Development Body (InterTradeIreland);**
- **The Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB);**
- **The North/South Language Body** (consisting of two Agencies i.e. Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch); and
- **The Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission (FCILC)** (consisting of two Agencies i.e. the Loughs Agency and The Lights Agency - see page 18).

1.14 In regard to three of the Bodies - InterTradeIreland, the North/South Language Body and the FCILC - the functions of each Body are exercised by a Board appointed by the NSMC. (Although strictly speaking not an Implementation Body, this is also the case with Tourism Ireland.) A fourth Body, the FSPB, has an advisory Board, also appointed by the NSMC, but the functions of the Body are exercised by the Chief Executive. The remaining two Bodies, Waterways Ireland and the SEUPB, do not have Boards; in each of these cases, the functions of the Body are exercised by the Chief Executive.

### Areas for Co-Operation

1.15 The matters within the Areas for Co-operation that were agreed for initial consideration by the NSMC were:

- **Education:** education for children with special needs (eg autism, hearing impairment), educational under-achievement, teacher qualifications, and school, youth and teacher exchanges;
- **Agriculture:** discussion of Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) issues, animal and plant health policy and research, and rural development;
- **Environment:** water quality management, waste management in a cross-border context, research into environmental protection, environmental

databases, environmental impact of agriculture, and information exchange and environmental awareness, and identification of strategies and activities which would contribute to a coherent all-island approach to the achievement of sustainable development;

- **Health:** accident and emergency services, planning for major emergencies, high technology equipment, cancer research and health promotion;
- **Transport:** strategic planning and road and rail safety. While co-operation would primarily arise in respect of road and rail planning, it would take account of issues arising in the port and airport sectors; and
- **Tourism:** it was agreed to establish a publicly-owned limited company to market the island of Ireland overseas as a tourism destination.

### North/South Ministerial Council Joint Secretariat

1.16 A standing Joint Secretariat, staffed by members of the Northern Ireland Civil Service and the Irish Civil Service, supports the work of the NSMC. During 2006, two key projects progressed by the Joint Secretariat were the Obstacles to Mobility Study and the acquisition of permanent accommodation for the Joint Secretariat.

1.17 In September 2000 the NSMC approved the commissioning of a study on obstacles to mobility between the two parts of the island of Ireland. The purpose of the study was to improve awareness of and stimulate debate on obstacles to cross border mobility. The study was published in February 2002 and contained 50 recommendations covering the following themes: Taxation, social security and pensions; Health services; Education, training and employment; Housing; Telecommunications, banking and insurance; and Transport.

1.18 During 2006, the Joint Secretariat along with officials in relevant Government Departments continued to work on implementing the recommendations and progress will be reported to the NSMC in 2007.



## Chapter 1 The North/South Ministerial Council

1.19 At the NSMC Plenary meeting in June 2002, Ministers agreed that options for permanent accommodation in Armagh for the Joint Secretariat should be considered by the two administrations and that proposals should be brought forward to a future meeting of the North/South Ministerial Council. A business case and economic appraisal completed in 2006 confirmed that the current NSMC Joint Secretariat does not meet the operational requirements of the Secretariat and recommended that suitable alternative accommodation in the Armagh City area be sought. The Joint Secretariat will bring forward recommendations to the NSMC in 2007.

1.20 Further information on the work of the Joint Secretariat is set out in Annex 2 of this report and on the website:  
[www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org](http://www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org)



## Chapter 2

# NSMC Activities 2006 - Implementation Bodies





## Introduction

This chapter provides an outline of the activities undertaken by each of the six Implementation Bodies in 2006.

# Trade and Business Development



Brian McCann, Chair of the Northern Ireland Polymer Association and Managing Director of Clarehill Plastics; Aidan Gough, Strategy & Policy Director, InterTradeIreland; Gerry Farrell, Director, Plastics Ireland pictured at the launch of the report 'A Competitiveness Analysis of the Polymer & Plastics Industry on the Island of Ireland' in the Polymer Processing Research Centre in Queens University Belfast on the 1 September 2006. The primary recommendation of this report was the creation of an all-island business network for this sector. The establishment of the All Island Polymer and Plastics Network was agreed between Plastics Ireland, The Northern Ireland Polymers Association, the Polymer Processing Research Centre at Queen's University Belfast and InterTradeIreland in November 2006.



#### Trade and Business Development Body - InterTradelreland

2.1.1 The Board of InterTradelreland is chaired by Dr Martin Naughton and the Vice-Chair is Mr Barry Fitzsimons. The Chief Executive of InterTradelreland is Mr Liam Nellis. The Board members are listed in Annex 5.

#### Functions/Objectives

2.1.2 InterTradelreland's Mission for the period 2005-2007 is to enhance the global competitiveness of the all-island economy to the mutual benefit of Ireland and Northern Ireland through measures such as the creation of knowledge-intensive all-island trade and business development networks and the implementation of all-island trade and business development programmes.

2.1.3 This mission statement unites the wider vision of a globally competitive island economy with InterTradelreland's legislative all-island remit. InterTradelreland's core means of delivery are the creation, the development and the exploitation of collaborative all-island business networks and a range of projects which provide the business community with trade and business development tools to secure competitive advantage.

#### Activities

2.1.4 InterTradelreland's portfolio includes a series of collaborative business networks, such as sector specific networks operating in biotechnology and life sciences (BioMedIreland), computer software (All Island Software Network and Mobile Software Business Network), plastics (Polymer and Plastics Network) and other business networks such as the North West Science and Technology Partnership.

2.1.5 In its Areas of Excellence Networks, InterTradelreland is addressing areas such as the utilisation of equity finance as a tool for company growth (EquityNetwork), island-wide supply chain solutions (Logistics XP), and the exploitation of benchmarking resources (All Island Best Practice Network).

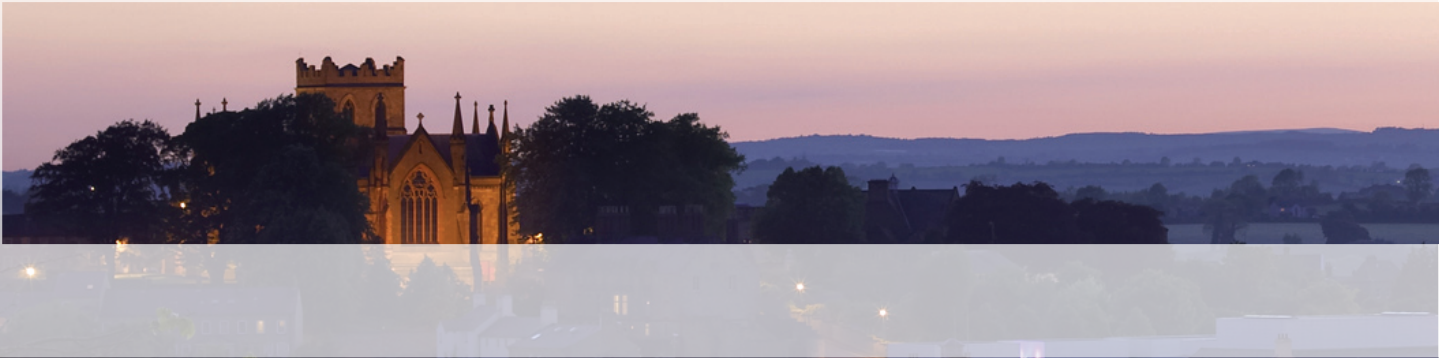
2.1.6 Support was provided to Communities of Interest Networks such as MicroTrade, which supports micro-enterprises across the island, the US/Ireland Research Partnership which is developing linkages between the US and research institutes and researchers on the island of Ireland and for which InterTradelreland provides a secretariat, and Universities Ireland which is a high-level body promoting co-operation and collaboration among universities across the island.

2.1.7 Included within its science, technology and innovation programmes in 2006, InterTradelreland offered the FUSION all-island technology transfer project, the INNOVA all-island collaborative research and development project and the unique all-island research portal [www.expertiseireland.com](http://www.expertiseireland.com).

2.1.8 Within its sales and marketing programmes in 2006, InterTradelreland offered the ACUMEN programme which is designed to stimulate cross-border trade amongst small and medium enterprises, the Network & Getwork buyer-supplier programme, the Go-Source public procurement portal [www.go-source.com](http://www.go-source.com) in partnership with Enterprise Ireland and Invest Northern Ireland, and the Go-Tender training programme which helps SMEs to develop public procurement expertise.

2.1.9 InterTradelreland has continued its programme of Business & Economic Research and among its own publications, and those which it sponsored in 2006 were; *Business Networks on the Island of Ireland*, *A Competitive Analysis of the Polymer & Plastics Industry on the Island of Ireland*, *Spatial Strategies on the Island of Ireland - Development of a Framework for Collaborative Action*, and *University Collaboration on Technology Transfer: An All-Island Feasibility Study*.

2.1.10 During 2006, through the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference, Dermot Ahern TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Peter Hain MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland called for a comprehensive study to identify areas where future economic co-operation would deliver mutual benefits. InterTradelreland participated in the



preparation of this study, which was published in November 2006, and which has seen the announcement of a series of agreed initiatives towards greater North/South economic co-operation.

2.1.11 During 2006 InterTradeIreland assisted more than 2500 companies to develop their capabilities and knowledge to do business on an all-island basis, have more than 300 companies working within their trade and business development programmes, have created additional all-island business networks and have generated trade and business development value in excess of £30M/€44.6M.

2.1.12 Further information on InterTradeIreland can be found on the Body's website: [www.intertradeireland.com](http://www.intertradeireland.com).





## Food Safety



Pictured at the launch of the **safefood** 'Superfoods' campaign are 2 year old Senan Turner, Dr Cliodhna Foley Nolan, Director of Public Health, **safefood** and 5 year old Katie Redmond. The **safefood** "Superfoods" campaign focuses on encouraging people to eat leaner meat, and increase their intake of fruit, vegetables and whole grains, foods which all have super nutritional properties but often get overlooked. The changes suggested by **safefood** are designed to help people address the quality of their own diets, which impact positively on their health in the long-term.

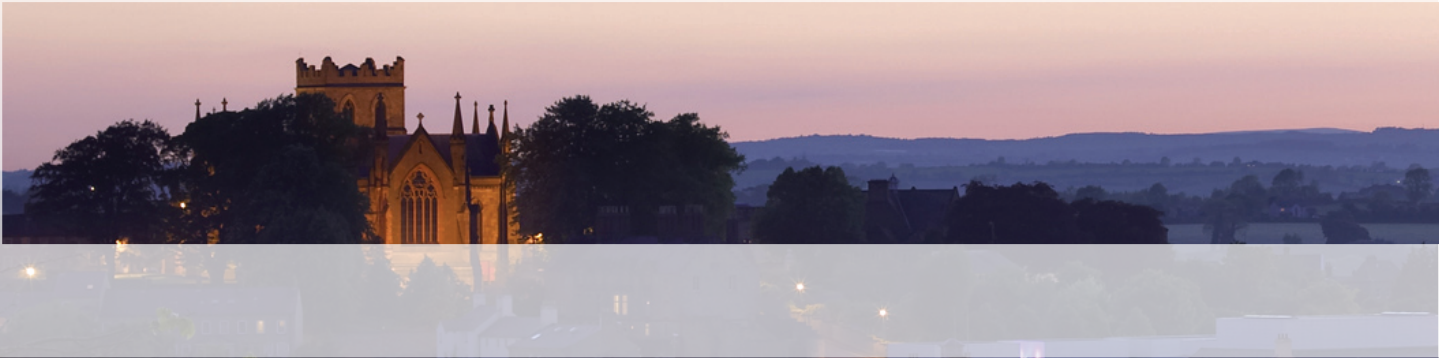
### Food Safety Promotion Board

2.2.1 The Food Safety Promotion Board (FSPB) is principally charged with the promotion of food safety, and supporting scientific co-operation between institutions working in that field. It has an Advisory Board of 12 members, appointed by the NSMC. The Board is chaired

by Mr Bertie Kerr, and the Vice-Chair is Professor Charlie Daly. The Chief Executive of the FSPB is Mr Martin Higgins. The Board members are listed in Annex 5.

#### Functions/Objectives

2.2.2 The FSPB operates under the brand identifier '**safefood**' or in the Irish language 'BiaSlán', and comprises



three directorates - Scientific and Technical, Marketing and Communications, and Planning and Resources. This structure ensures that the Body is adequately resourced and the necessary supports are in place to develop and implement the programmes that support its remit and the realisation of its mission.

2.2.3 The FSPB carries out its role through publicity campaigns, specialist conferences, and by training and advising both professionals and the general public. It is also involved in supporting North/South scientific co-operation, and links between institutions working in the field of food safety laboratories, statutory food safety enforcement agencies, international and domestic research bodies. The development of cost-effective specialised laboratory testing falls within the Board's remit. The Board also has a role to provide independent scientific assessment of food safety matters. Cross-border co-operation between organisations working in these areas is central to the work of the Board.

### Activities

#### Consumer Focussed Review (CFR)

2.2.4 In 2005 **safefood** initiated a programme which involves two comprehensive food chain screening exercises per year over a three year period. Each review profiles a specific food category, identifies and describes the relevant food safety issues pertaining to it at various points along the food chain, and identifies opportunities to communicate the human health benefits to, and influence the behaviour of, the various stakeholders.

2.2.5 The primary focus of these reviews is food safety and nutrition issues; however, other concerns identified by the consumer not directly related to food safety are discussed, e.g. labelling, quality assurance schemes, and training. Both quantitative and qualitative research commissioned by **safefood** identifies the issues that consumers may have with the food chain and underlines consumers' attitudes and behaviours.

2.2.6 A comprehensive report is made available on the safefood website following each review and a summary

document is printed and available for dissemination. To coincide with the launch of the report and summary document a stakeholder development programme is undertaken. The purpose of this programme is to develop relationships with relevant stakeholders (industry; public bodies; and Government); promote best practice within the specific industry; and explore opportunities for future collaboration.

2.2.7 In 2006, reviews of the fruit and vegetable and beef food chains were considered. The report of the former review will be launched in early February 2007 and it is anticipated that the beef report will be released in early summer 2007.

#### All Island Infectious Intestinal Disease Conference

2.2.8 This event took place over two days in Belfast on 18th/19th January 2006. The 110 delegates comprised a multi-disciplinary group from both Northern Ireland and Ireland comprising clinical and food laboratory personnel, surveillance scientists, Environmental Health Officers and Public Health Doctors.

2.2.9 The four sessions dealt with a review of structures, recent outbreaks, current research and a workshop in networking. The key message from the conference was the need for focused multi-disciplinary training on disease investigation and control. Detailed recommendations for networking were produced.

#### Lablink Activity

2.2.10 The Lablink Unit hosted two-day workshops for senior laboratory staff on 'Method Validation in Food Microbiology' in both Belfast and Cork.

2.2.11 The workshops provided a great opportunity for staff from different laboratory sectors to interact and exchange ideas. Staff participated from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Belfast, Belfast City Hospital Public Health Laboratory, Limerick-Waterford-Cork Public Health Laboratories, Dairy Science Laboratories from Cork and Limerick and Cork County Council Food Safety Laboratory.



## Chapter 2

### NSMC Activities 2006 - Implementation Bodies

#### Food Hygiene Priorities

2.2.12 The following themes for food safety/hygiene message briefs for 2006 were identified by the Food Hygiene Team. These are the most important messages for which there is both clear evidence and an opportunity to positively impact on practices and behaviours in the domestic setting:

1. Cooking - This is the final critical control point for many raw foods for consumers. This will emphasise “cook until piping hot with no pink meat” message, especially for comminuted meats, poultry, pork etc. This will also discreetly reinforce the message that viruses as well as bacteria are killed with proper cooking without having to refer to Avian Influenza. This message was issued in April 2006;
2. Cleaning - hand washing will always remain a critical area. Previous campaigns have dealt with the “when” of this and we need to continue the “when” but also the “how”;
3. Cross-contamination - as with the “don’t wash the turkey” campaign, cleaning surfaces and kitchen utensils are important aspects of prevention;
4. “Vote with your feet” campaign is a citizen empowering campaign that is critical, e.g. “Use your eyes and vote with your feet”; and
5. The BBQ and picnic campaigns get attention in the summer months. These are used to reinforce the “cooking message”.

#### All-Island Directory of Nutrition Activities

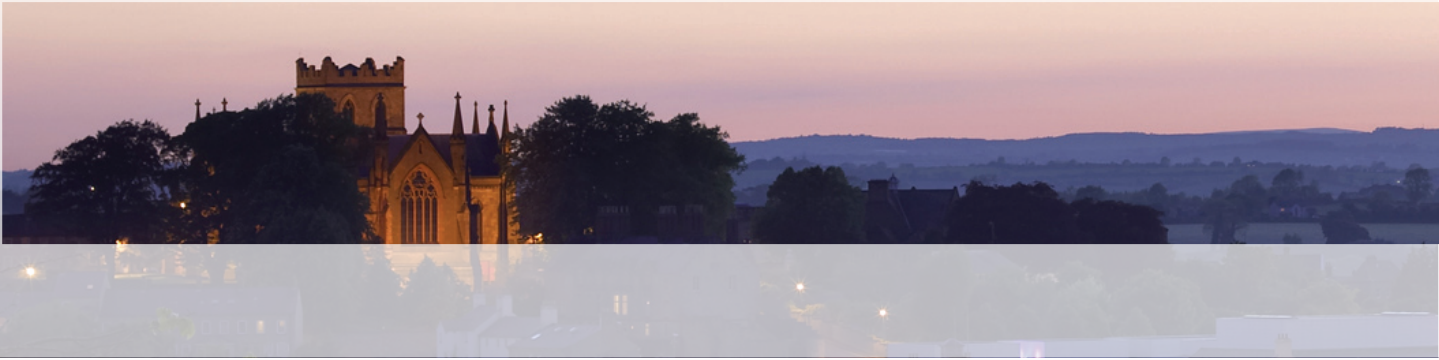
2.2.13 The Irish Nutrition and Dietetic Institute’s (INDI) Research Dietitian has completed the collection of the data for the first phase of the all-island directory of nutrition activities. The initial phase of the directory is focused on the nutrition activities within the dietetics field. The database was populated and is currently being converted into a searchable database by **safefood’s** IT department. A pilot version of the database was shown at the annual general

meetings of the INDI and British Dietetic Association Northern Ireland Branch and was well received.

#### Nutrition Exchange Programme

2.2.14 In association with the launch of the Nutrition Database, **safefood** launched a nutrition exchange programme that will provide funding for dietitians/nutritionists who wish to visit another department or centre within the island of Ireland or the European Union to exchange information in the field of nutrition.

2.2.15 Further information on **safefood** can be found on the Body’s website: [www.safefood.eu](http://www.safefood.eu).



## Aquaculture and Marine



An angling taster session for young adults. This event was organised by the Loughs Agency as part of National Fishing Week in partnership with the Professional Angling Guides Instructors Network.

### Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission

2.3.1 The NSMC meets on Aquaculture and Marine matters in order to take decisions on policies and action to be implemented by the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission (FCILC).

2.3.2 The Implementation Bodies Agreement provides that the FCILC would exercise its functions through two agencies. The functions of the Commission in relation to the Foyle and Carlingford areas are exercised through the Loughs Agency (which in respect of its remit inherited

the functions of the Foyle Fisheries Commission). The Implementation Bodies agreement also provides that the FCILC should be the General Lighthouse Authority for the island of Ireland undertaking the functions of the Commissioners of Irish Lights once the necessary legislative and other arrangements had been put in place. However a number of technical issues arose in relation to the transfer and the NSMC, at its Plenary meeting in June 2002, recognised that complex issues surrounded such a transfer and asked that the relevant Ministers and Departments consider the matter and report back to a future meeting of the Council. The St Andrews Agreement



## Chapter 2

### NSMC Activities 2006 - Implementation Bodies

provides for a Review Group which would, inter alia, input into the work commissioned by the NSMC in June 2002, to identify a suitable substitute for the proposed Lights Agency.

2.3.3 The FCILC has a Board of 12 members appointed by the NSMC which exercises the functions of the Body in relation to the Foyle and Carlingford areas through the Loughs Agency. The Board is chaired by Mr Peter Savage and its membership is listed in Annex 5. The Chief Executive of the Loughs Agency is Mr Derick Anderson.

#### Loughs Agency

##### Functions/Objectives

2.3.4 The FCILC was given responsibility for the functions of the Foyle Fisheries Commission on 2 December 1999. These functions - "the conservation, protection and improvement of the fisheries of the Foyle Area" - were extended to the Carlingford area.

2.3.5 In addition, through the Agency, FCILC is responsible for the promotion and development of Lough Foyle and Carlingford Lough for commercial and recreational purposes in the area of marine fishery and aquaculture matters, the development of marine tourism, and the development and licensing of aquaculture in the Foyle and Carlingford areas.

2.3.6 During 2006, legislation to provide the Loughs Agency with an inland fisheries development function and to provide for aquaculture development and licensing in the Foyle and Carlingford areas was progressed significantly.

##### Activities

##### Staffing Structure and Resources

2.3.7 The review of the Agency's staffing structure was completed and agreed in early 2006. Recruitment of all posts has now been completed and the four Directorates, Corporate Services, Conservation and Protection, Aquaculture and Development are now fully operational.

##### Foyle and Carlingford Area Advisory Forum

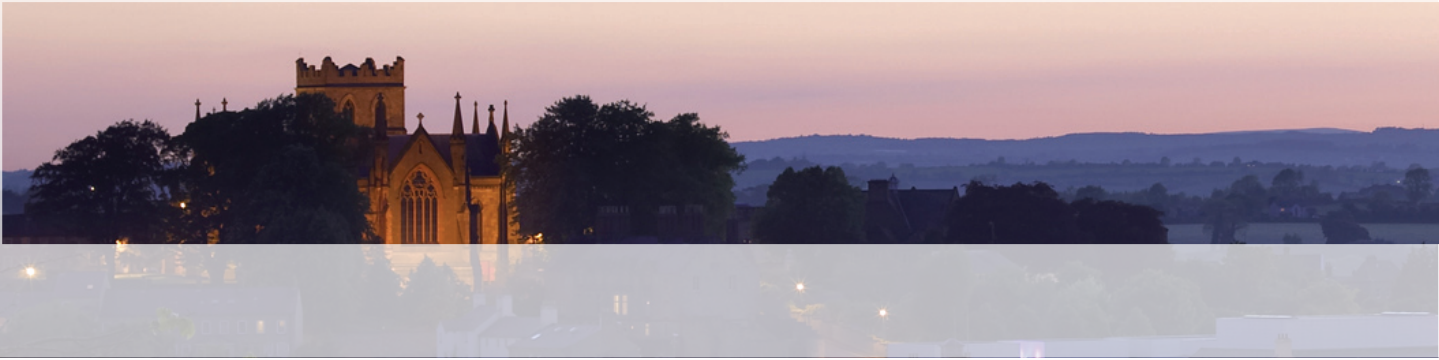
2.3.8 An independent recruitment exercise was undertaken to select members for the second Advisory Forum. This was completed in August 2006 and before the end of the year the new Forum met on three occasions and formed focus groups to discuss Marine Tourism Strategy, the cessation of Interceptory Fishing for salmon stocks not achieving their conservation limits and the regulation of aquaculture and wild shellfisheries in the Foyle and Carlingford areas.

##### Marine Tourism

2.3.9 The Agency in partnership with Dundalk Chamber of Commerce hosted a two-day Marine Tourism Conference "stoking the engine" which focused on the Marine Leisure markets. It was held in the Heritage centre in Carlingford and was attended by some 120 delegates who came from all the tourism centres along the coast of the island of Ireland and from Brittany and Scotland.

2.3.10 The highlight of the year was the "Celtic European Festival of the Sea" supported by the Loughs Agency which took place in May and June along the north coast extending from Carnlough to Inishowen. The project was also supported by the EU Interreg IIIA Programme for Ireland/Northern Ireland through the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Border Action and the Irish Central Border Area Network and all the Councils along the coast. The week long festival included tall ships, navy vessels, seafood cookery demonstrations, outdoor music, the wonderful Port Pageant and the spectacular Inishowen Carnival parade to name but a few of the events that took place along the quayside.

2.3.11 The Agency prepared a draft Strategy Document for the development of Marine Tourism and a five year Development Plan for the Recreational Fisheries of the Foyle and Carlingford Areas. With the recent appointment of a Director of Development the extensive consultation process has been completed and the document will be submitted for Departmental and NSMC approval in 2007.



### **Angling Development, Riverwatch and Outreach Programmes**

2.3.12 The Agency is heavily involved in generating an ownership of the resources of the Foyle and Carlingford areas and during the year the various programmes were focused on the Agency's interpretive centre "Riverwatch" which welcomed its 30,000th visitor and new additions to the centre included the installation of aquariums which host different species found in and around the catchments.

2.3.13 A series of successful pilot workshops were held in the Foyle and Carlingford areas bringing together accommodation providers, angling guides and tour operators with the aim of developing angling packages and it is planned to further develop these in partnership with the local councils and tourism bodies.

### **Aquaculture**

2.3.14 In preparation for the regulation of Aquaculture and Shellfisheries in Lough Foyle, an independent baseline survey of the Lough was undertaken by the Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) and has been circulated to all stakeholders for consultation. Further preparatory work continued including the development of carrying capacity models for Foyle and Carlingford Loughs in partnership with Institute of Marine Research - IMAR (Portugal), Plymouth Marine Laboratory – PML (U.K.) and CSIR (South Africa) and DARDNI.

### **Salmon and Inland Fisheries**

2.3.15 While commercial catches were down on previous seasons in the Foyle area, over 20,000 salmon passed through the four major fish counting stations and angling catches, although affected by extended dry conditions during the summer, were good. Work was initiated later in the year to provide a fish counting station on the Clanrye River at Newry.

2.3.16 The genetics programme, which analyses the genetic difference between the various catchments in the Foyle area, reported in 2005 and phase two was initiated

in 2006. It is noteworthy that this work piloted in the Foyle catchment is now being rolled out throughout the island to provide a "*genetics atlas*" of the Irish salmon populations.

2.3.17 Further information on the Loughs Agency can be found on the Body's website: [www.loughs-agency.org](http://www.loughs-agency.org).



## Special EU Programmes



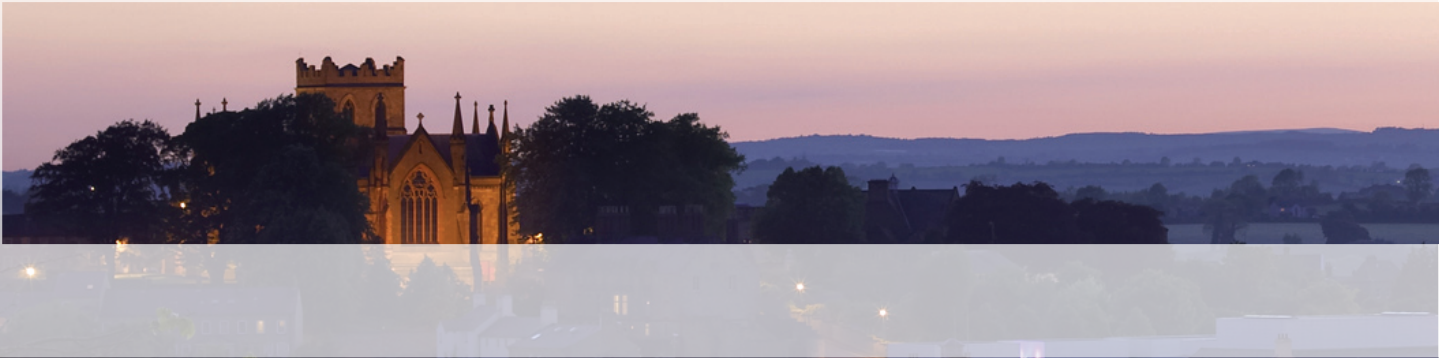
The innovative Diversity Works training programme was launched by (left to right): Sir Hugh Orde, Chief Constable, Police Service of Northern Ireland; Pat Colgan, Chief Executive, Special EU Programmes Body and Noel Conroy, Garda Commissioner.

2.4.1 The mission of the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) is to develop co-operation, understanding and actions between people and organisations in Ireland and Northern Ireland through consultation and the implementation of social, economic, reconciliation and cultural programmes funded by the European Union and the two Member States. The Chief Executive of the SEUPB is Mr Pat Colgan.

### Functions/Objectives

2.4.2 The SEUPB is the Managing Authority for the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (PEACE II) and the INTERREG IIIA Programme. It is also the Paying Authority for the INTERREG IIIA Programme.

2.4.3 It is also responsible for monitoring and promoting the Common Chapter, the strategic framework for cross-border co-operation across a broad range of sectors agreed between the two Governments. The Body is also responsible for the North/South elements of the Community



Initiatives URBAN II, LEADER + and EQUAL in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

### Activities

#### INTERREG IIIA

2.4.4 During 2006, the INTERREG IIIA Programme achieved full commitment of all of the funds allocated to it (€182.7million). 301 cross border co-operation projects have been supported. The excellent relationship built up with Implementing Agents and partners continued throughout the year and the challenging N+2 expenditure targets for INTERREG IIIA were met.

2.4.5 A new oil terminal at the Port of Londonderry received funding of £1.7m from the European Union's INTERREG IIIA programme. One of the largest terminals to be developed in the UK and Ireland in several decades, it represents a commercial and industrial landmark development and is expected to boost the economies on both sides of the border in the North West. The new 76,000 tonne oil storage terminal was built on a brownfield site adjacent to the port and harbour facilities. Its North-West location was agreed to meet various environmental, logistic, policy and economic needs. The terminal creates additional capacity on the island. Long hauls by road tanker from the ports of Dublin and Belfast, already stretched to capacity, are no longer necessary to the north and west.

2.4.6 Another INTERREG highlight during the year was the restoration of the Warrenpoint Old Town dock area. This marked the culmination of a two-year major cross border construction project which was part-funded by the European Union with support funding from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Department of Transport and the Warrenpoint Harbour Authority. The project provided a safe, practical, state-of-the-art facility for the landing and purification of mussels following several tragic, fatal incidents in Carlingford Lough. The re-development of the dock has also attracted considerable local community interest and its visible location in the centre of the town makes it a potential tourist attraction.

#### PEACE II

2.4.7 An extension of €160 million to the PEACE II Programme was approved in 2005. This brings the total amount of funding committed to date under the PEACE II Programme to €994.6 million.

2.4.8 An innovative cross-border training programme aimed at helping police officers gain a better understanding of the communities they serve was funded through the European Union's PEACE II Programme and launched in 2006 by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) and An Garda Síochána (Garda). The *Diversity Works* project sought to challenge officers' perceptions and raise their awareness of diversity issues. Training sessions were held in both Northern Ireland and Ireland during the year. PSNI/Garda trainers were assisted by a team of expert diversity facilitators appointed from the community.

2.4.9 A project to promote positive mental health for people in the border region began during the year with a pilot training programme funded by the European Union's Programme for Peace and Reconciliation. The Mental Health First Aid project was the result of collaboration between CAWT (Cooperation and Working Together), AWARE Defeat Depression and the Health Promotion Agency, Northern Ireland. A group of 15 instructors from both sides of the border underwent training to deliver a Mental Health First Aid Programme which taught people how to recognise the symptoms of mental health problems, how to provide initial help and how to guide a person towards appropriate professional help.

#### New Programmes 2007 to 2013 - INTERREG IV and PEACE III

2.4.10 During 2006, the SEUPB was asked by the two Governments to develop new programmes for the European Union's 2007-2013 Territorial Cooperation Programme. Two new programmes are envisaged for the period 2007 to 2013 - INTERREG IV, which will for the first time include participation by parts of Western Scotland along with Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland; and PEACE III, which will build on the experience





## Chapter 2 NSMC Activities 2006 - Implementation Bodies

of the current PEACE II Programme. The total value of the PEACE III Programme is likely to be close to €300 million and the value of the INTERREG IV Programme is likely to be of the order of €256 million. Thus for the new programming period, these programmes will represent an investment in the region of over €560 million. This is in addition to the other European Union funded Programmes being prepared under Objective 2 of Structural Funds for Competitiveness and Employment.

2.4.11 The preparation of these programmes involved a widespread public consultation exercise during the first half of the year. In addition to consulting with government departments, a series of consultation events with stakeholders was held throughout the eligible area. Consultation also involved the Scottish Parliament in exploring how Western Scotland could be involved in the Cross Border Territorial Cooperation Programme. Following these initial consultations, SEUPB prepared Draft Operational Programmes for the INTERREG IV and PEACE III programmes for submission to the Member States and subsequently to the European Commission for approval. Both of these programmes will be the subject of formal public consultation in Northern Ireland during the first half of 2007. It is anticipated that the programmes will be operational during the second half of 2007.

2.4.12 Further information on SEUPB can be found on the Body's website: [www.seupb.org](http://www.seupb.org).



# Language

## The North/South Language Body (An Foras Teanga/Tha Boord O Leid)

### Functions/Objectives

2.5.1 The Language Body is a single Body reporting to the NSMC, but composed of two separate agencies - The Irish Language Agency/Foras na Gaeilge, and the Ulster-Scots Agency/Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch.

2.5.2 The Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge, and the Chairperson of Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch, are joint Chairpersons of the Language Body. Maighréad Uí Mháirtín is Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge. Mark Thompson is Chairperson of the Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch.



Pictured at the launch of 'An Barr Caoga', The top 50 Irish Languages Businesses were Connla Lawlor, Lá, Gearóid Trimble, Community and Business Programme Manager, Foras na Gaeilge, Tom Trainor, Chief Executive of the Marketing Institute of Ireland and Deirdre Nic Cathmhaoil from the cosmetic company Rí na Mara



#### Foras Na Gaeilge

##### Functions/Objectives

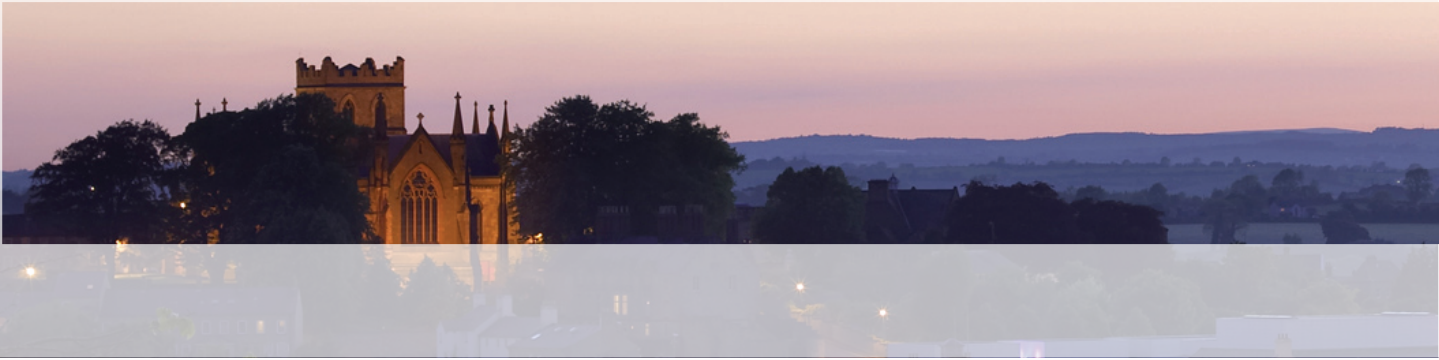
2.5.3 Foras na Gaeilge has responsibility for the promotion of the Irish language on an all-island basis. It has responsibilities in the areas of education, dictionaries, terminology and teaching/learning publications.

2.5.4 Maighr ad U  Mh irt n is Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge and there are 15 other members on the Board (see Annex 5). Mr Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh is the Chief Executive.

##### Activities

2.5.5 Activities undertaken by Foras na Gaeilge during the year included:

- Core-funding of 17 Irish language and educational organisations including additional organisational projects;
- On-going administration of the three-year local community support scheme, ‘Sc im Phobail Gaeilge 2005-2007’, including three major capital projects and 21 posts;
- Creation and administration of a new funding scheme for community groups, ‘An Ghaeilge sa Phobal’;
- Creation and successful outcome of a new funding scheme for the daily Irish language news publication, ‘Sc im Fhoilseach n Laeth il Gaeilge’;
- Development and administration of financial assistance schemes for the business sector, distribution of business support packs and commissioning of research into developing the Irish language as a marketing tool;
- An all-Island promotional campaign for Irish language books was organised in conjunction with The Arts Council, Bord na Leabhar Gaeilge and The Irish Book Publishers Association;
- Foras na Gaeilge engaged in a wide ranging programme of both small and large-scale sponsorships;
- Eleven editions of the Foras na Gaeilge newsletter ‘Saol’ were published during 2006 and 15,000 of each were distributed throughout the Island of Ireland and abroad;
- **Gaeilge.ie:** Traffic to the Foras na Gaeilge website continued to grow throughout 2006 reaching a high point during the month of December when it had in excess of 540,000 hits;
- During 2006, Foras na Gaeilge initiated and implemented an accreditation system for Irish-language translators on an all-island basis, resulting in the first official panel of 54 accredited translators;
- A series of week-long workshops for translators was organised in 5 different venues throughout the island and the first ever on-line course, accredited by National University of Ireland, Maynooth and funded by Foras na Gaeilge, was launched in September 2006;
- Projects, including a helpline *FREAGRA*, and *Taisce T acsanna*, a web-based project aimed at the provision of bilingual documentation, were developed with a view to assisting the public sector provide a bilingual service;
- A wide range of arts projects was funded and developed, ranging from theatre companies to publications, festivals to workshops, residencies to readings, and films to exhibitions;
- Funding was provided for 32 summer camps;
- Funding was provided to promote the Irish Medium pre-school sector in Northern Ireland through *lontaobhas na Gaelscola ochta*;
- Foras na Gaeilge made a submission on, and participated in, the review of the teaching of literacy in Irish-medium schools to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment;



- Funding was provided for scholarships for 11 families with children at Irish Medium schools to attend a Gaeltacht course for families in Gaoth Dobhair;
- Funding was provided to third level Teacher Training Colleges for scholarship schemes and for improved provision for Irish-medium education. Funding was also provided to other third-level institutions who offer courses through the medium of Irish;
- The GLEO (Gaeilge Labhartha san Earnáil Oideachais) scheme which aims to recognise the best practice of primary school teachers in the teaching of oral Irish in English-medium schools was launched;
- A Steering Group for an Immersion Education Policy was established by Foras na Gaeilge in co-operation with relevant stakeholders to agree an immersion education policy by September 2008;
- Materials were published including general fiction, for both primary and second levels;
- Éideán Sí Integrated multi-media pack published for Second Class;
- Further preparatory work was done on phase two of an English-Irish Dictionary Project;
- National terminological database, [www.focal.ie](http://www.focal.ie), was launched;
- Glossary, Styleguide and Policheck were completed for new Microsoft localisation project (Windows and Office Vista); and
- During 2006 Áis supplied books to 322 bookshops throughout the island, 19 in Britain, 5 in continental Europe, and 5 in the United States. A total of 289,895 units were distributed during 2006 and turnover increased by 10% to €1,395,179.

2.5.6 Further information on Foras na Gaeilge can be found on the Agency's website: [www.forasnagaeilge.ie](http://www.forasnagaeilge.ie).



## Chapter 2 NSMC Activities 2006 - Implementation Bodies

### Tha Boord O Ulstèr Scotch The Ulstèr-Scots Agency



Kidscapè Youth Club in Newry getting educated by a living history presentation on the first Scots settlers to Ireland. The young people got an opportunity to try on chainmail and other pieces of armour, witness sword fighting displays and handle a range of weaponry from the early 1600s.

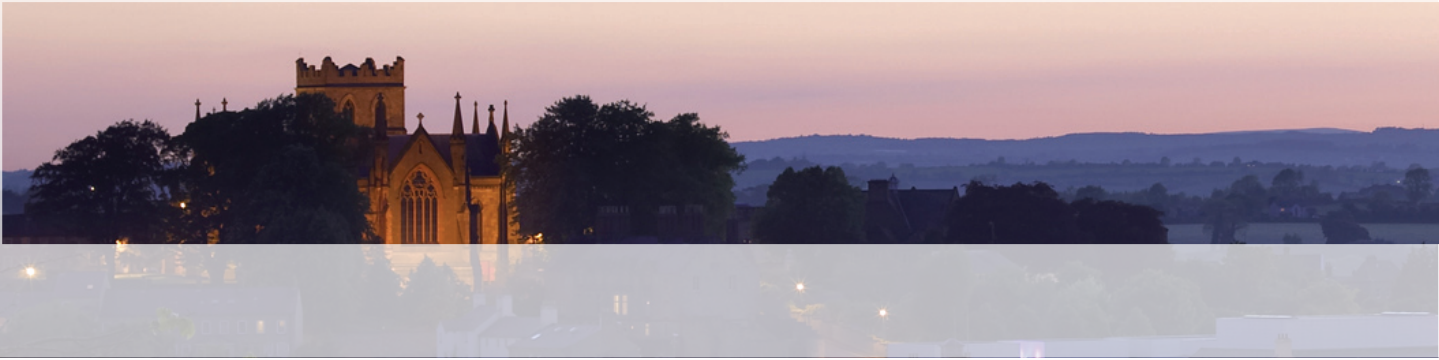
#### Functions/Objectives

2.5.7 Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch has responsibility for the promotion of greater awareness and use of Ullans and of Ulster-Scots cultural issues, both within Northern Ireland and throughout the island.

2.5.8 Mr Mark Thompson is Chairperson of Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch and there are 7 other members on the Board (see Annex 5). The Chief Executive of the Agency is Mr George Patton.

#### Activities

2.5.9 The Ulster-Scots Agency has continued to develop participation, awareness and understanding of all aspects of Ulster Scots language and cultural diversity and is servicing community demand from almost 500 Ulster Scots community groups. The promotion of the Ulster-Scots language has been boosted by the development work carried out by the Ulster Scots Curriculum Development Unit at Stranmillis College and the production of several



publications in both hard copy and e-booklet form. Work on cultural development continued with the high demand for financial assistance to provide dance and music tuition throughout Northern Ireland and counties Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan. Public awareness has been boosted by the Agency running two high profile community festivals to commemorate the Hamilton and Montgomery settlement of 1606. The Agency witnessed a huge demand for historical education in relation to the settlement from the Ulster Scots community and many groups planned and delivered festivals to commemorate the event. This provided the Agency with an insight into what it needs to do for the fast approaching Plantation of Ulster commemoration.

2.5.10 The Hamilton and Montgomery settlement commemoration was also marked by the publication of a heritage trail and leaflets and these productions were used as a tourism trail both in Ulster and Scotland by visitors from America.

2.5.11 The Ulster-Scots Agency's working relationship with its sister agency, Foras na Gaeilge was further cemented by joint internal and external projects. Highlights of this joint working were the showcasing of shared cultures to the audience at the 3 day Northern Ireland International Horse Show in the Odyssey Arena in Belfast in October. This international sporting event was the first event of its kind to offer a warm tri-lingual (Ulster Scots, Irish and English) welcome to the large audience who attended each evening.

2.5.12 The Agency piloted 6 "Ulster Scots Summer Schools" in July and August and these proved a highly efficient and effective use of resources both financial and human to deliver linguistic and educational awareness to the youth of the community. Several hundred young people aged between 6 and 14, attended the schools having fun while learning about the culture, heritage and language of the Ulster Scots. The average summer school week included dance displays, bagpipe, drumming, accordion, lambeg, fife, flute and fiddle workshops, archery and football coaching, Ulster Scots cookery demonstrations, including making potato bread/fadge and other breads,

workbooks with quizzes, wordsearches, colouring in pages and test your family's Ulster Scots and lots of fun and games.

2.5.13 The success of these pilot schools has led to the Summer Schools being a key delivery objective for 2007 with a minimum number of 20 schools planned for July and August.

2.5.14 Further information on the Ulster-Scots Agency can be found on the Agency's website at [www.ulsterscotsagency.com](http://www.ulsterscotsagency.com).



## Inland Waterways



### Abbeyshrule Opening

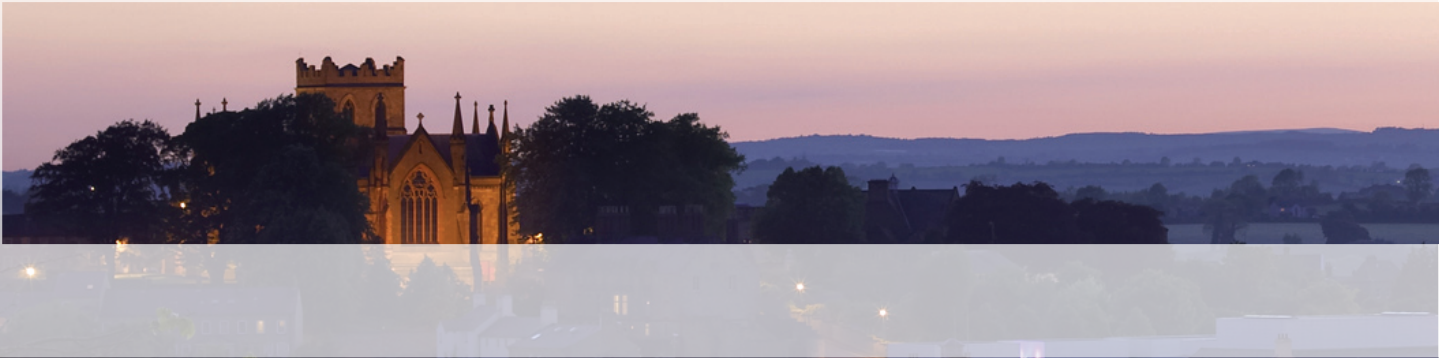
At the opening of the 10km restored section of the Royal Canal from Abbeyshrule to Ballybrannigan Harbour, Co Longford, from left: John Cradock of John Cradock Ltd; Jean Errity, Senior Engineer, Waterways Ireland; John Martin, Chief Executive, Waterways Ireland; Jim Harvey, Head of Structural Engineering, Waterways Ireland; and Craig Smart of Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers.

### Waterways Ireland

#### Functions/Objectives

2.6.1 Waterways Ireland's primary function is the management, maintenance, development and restoration of specified inland navigable waterway systems throughout

the island, principally for recreational purposes. Waterways Ireland is responsible for the navigation systems detailed in paragraph 2.6.2, which were previously under the respective control of the Department of Community, Rural, and Gaeltacht Affairs in the South and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland.



2.6.2 The systems referred to above are: - the Shannon-erne Waterway, the Erne System, the Grand Canal, the Barrow Navigation, the Lower Bann Navigation, the Royal Canal and the Shannon Navigation.

2.6.3 Waterways Ireland can take forward studies and appraisals in relation to the possible restoration of the Ulster Canal.

2.6.4 The Body operates in three regions: Northern, Eastern and Western.

2.6.5 The Chief Executive of Waterways Ireland is Mr John Martin.

#### Activities

2.6.6 In 2006 Waterways Ireland continued to enhance the facilities and services on the waterways to meet the recreational needs of visitors and locals using them.

2.6.7 In August, the new Regional Office for the Western Region of Waterways Ireland was officially opened by Síle de Valera T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Education & Science. The new Regional Office is a two-storey building adjacent to the harbour in Scarriff, County Clare, with views of both the harbour and down the Scariff River to the Slieve Bearnagh Mountains. The office is the base for the Operations Division of the Western Region. It is also the base for the Internal Audit Section and staff from the Technical Services Division.

2.6.8 The maintenance, development and restoration of the waterways by the Operations and Technical Divisions continued in 2006. Key projects on each of the waterways included:

- In August a further 10km of restored waterway on the **Royal Canal** was officially opened which allowed navigation through Abbeyshrule to Ballybrannigan Harbour in Co. Longford;
- On the **Lower Bann Navigation**, the channel markers and infrastructure continued to be developed, and new moorings were installed at Portneal Lodge, Kilrea. The maintenance

programme included dredging at the Cutts and Movanager and weed cutting at Movanager and Portna;

- On the **Erne System** a new and upgraded jetty was installed at Ardhowen Theatre in Enniskillen;
- In Ballyconnell, Co Cavan on the **Shannon-Erne Waterway**, a new footbridge was installed over the waterway and the amenity area along the waterway was enhanced;
- On the **Shannon Navigation**, new waiting jetties at Drumshanbo Lock were installed and the new moorings in Carrick on Shannon were completed;
- On the **Barrow Navigation**, the dredging programme continued and work started on the restoration of the Dry Dock in Graiguenamanagh, where the amenity jetty was also extended;
- Bank strengthening and improvement work was completed at Turraun on the **Grand Canal**; dredging took place at various locations on the Barrow Line of the **Grand Canal** and the jetty installation programme continued; and
- On the possible restoration of the **Ulster Canal**, completion of studies entitled "Socio Economic Summary Report for the North East and South West Sections of the Ulster Canal" and "Ulster Canal Seasability Study".

2.6.9 The marketing activities of Waterways Ireland aim to create greater awareness of the waterways and Waterways Ireland; promote greater use of the waterways; work in partnership with other bodies; and build a platform for sustained market development. Specific projects undertaken in 2006 included:

1. The development of a range of six new publications which were distributed through the Tourist Information Centres and a number of direct mail campaigns;





## Chapter 2 NSMC Activities 2006 - Implementation Bodies

2. Promotion of the waterways through an outdoor billboard and adshel campaign based on the themes of heritage, nature, water-sports, cruising and angling;
3. Attendance at a range of product-oriented exhibitions including an Angling Fair and Boat Shows in Dublin, London and Birmingham;
4. Joint promotional activities in conjunction with partners such as the Heritage Boat Association (HBA), Fermanagh District Council, International Water Ski Federation and the Northern Ireland Events Company;
5. Organisation of major international sporting events such as the Erne International Pike Fishing Classic Festival on the Erne and the triAthlone (triathlon) in Athlone on the Shannon and the sponsorship of over 30 other waterways events;
6. Launch of the Waterways Ireland website to increase awareness of the inland waterways by illustrating the characteristics of each waterway and the navigation links between the waterways; and
7. Research on the economic impact of the private boating industry.

2.6.10 A review of the Waterways Ireland Strategy for Enhanced Customer Service commenced at the end of 2006, with a view to developing and launching a new strategy for service excellence and customer service in 2007.

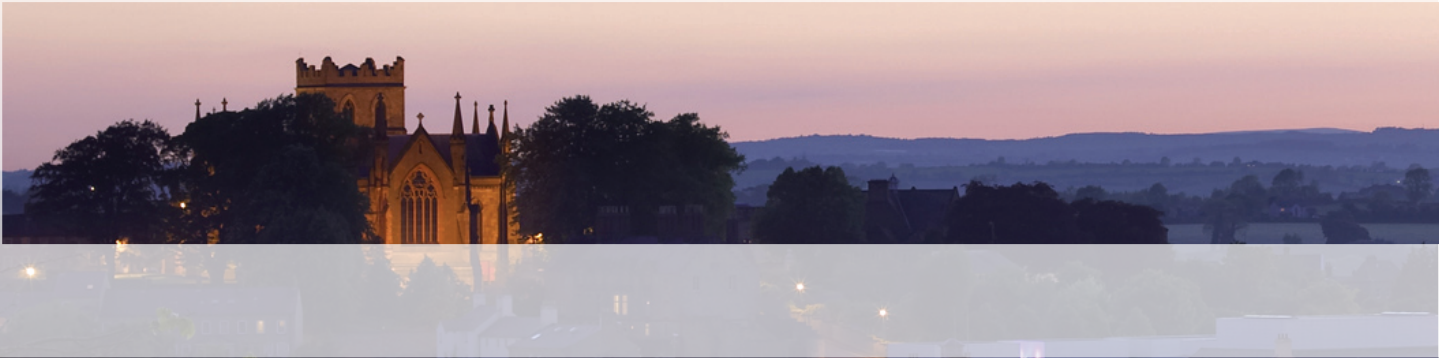
2.6.11 Further information on Waterways Ireland can be found on the Body's website [www.waterwaysireland.org](http://www.waterwaysireland.org).



# Chapter 3

## NSMC Activities 2006 - Areas for Co-operation





## Introduction

This chapter provides an outline of the activities undertaken within each of the Areas for Co-operation in 2006

# Tourism



Mount Stewart House in County Down. Anyone arriving here, or at any of our hundreds of great stately homes and gardens, will soon find out that Ireland possesses many, many more colours than just green. To find out more, give us a call on 0800 519 1616 or visit our website.

Your very own Ireland  
Discover it at [discoverireland.com](http://discoverireland.com)



Mount Stewart House, Co Down

## Tourism Ireland

3.1.1 The NSMC oversees the work of Tourism Ireland, the publicly-owned limited company which is responsible for marketing overseas the island of Ireland as a tourist destination. The Company has a Board of 12 members appointed by NSMC (see Annex 5). The Chairperson of the Company is Mr Andrew Coppel and the Vice-Chairperson is Ms Ann Riordan. The Chief Executive is Mr Paul O'Toole.

## Activities

3.1.2 In 2006, 8.8m overseas visitors came to the island of Ireland, an increase of 8.5% or an additional 690,000 visitors, on 2005 levels. Overseas tourism revenue also grew by 6.4% to €4.32bn. This was a record year which saw the island of Ireland gaining share of both World and European arrivals.



## Chapter 3 NSMC Activities 2006 - Areas for Co-operation

3.1.3 In 2006 Tourism Ireland focused on the following priorities:

- Launching and rolling out its new Marketing Communications campaign;
- Launching and rolling out a new consumer website - [www.discoverireland.com](http://www.discoverireland.com);
- Continuing to deliver tourism growth to Northern Ireland;
- Growing tourism to all the Regions in the South;
- Access development;
- Reinvigorating the North American Market; and
- Maximising opportunities around the Ryder Cup.

### **New Global Marketing Communications Campaign**

3.1.4 A new global marketing communications campaign was rolled out in 2006 to increase consumer awareness and interest in the island of Ireland holiday experience and to convert this interest to travel. The campaign will run in key markets for three years with an estimated annual audience of 200 million viewers.

### **Roll-out of next generation website - [www.discoverireland.com](http://www.discoverireland.com):**

3.1.5 Tourism Ireland also rolled out its next generation website for global consumers - [www.discoverireland.com](http://www.discoverireland.com). It promotes the island of Ireland as a holiday destination across 35 international sites, in 14 different languages.

### **Delivering tourism growth to Northern Ireland:**

3.1.6 Northern Ireland welcomed an estimated 1.7 million overseas visitors in 2006. Revenue from overseas tourism totalled an estimated £329 million.

3.1.7 Tourism Ireland continued to work closely with the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and the industry to feature Northern Ireland prominently in the full range of marketing activity highlighting winning themes and signature projects,

ease of access by sea and air as well as good value packages from the industry.

### **Growing tourism to all the Regions in the South:**

3.1.8 Tourism Ireland launched the “Super Regions” marketing initiative - new strategic alliances between adjoining tourism regions for the purposes of overseas promotion - to encourage more overseas travellers to visit the regions.

### **Access development:**

3.1.9 A key focus of Tourism Ireland’s work in 2006 was to act as strategic partner to air and sea carriers and provide maximum promotional support in source markets for new direct services and for existing services of strategic importance.

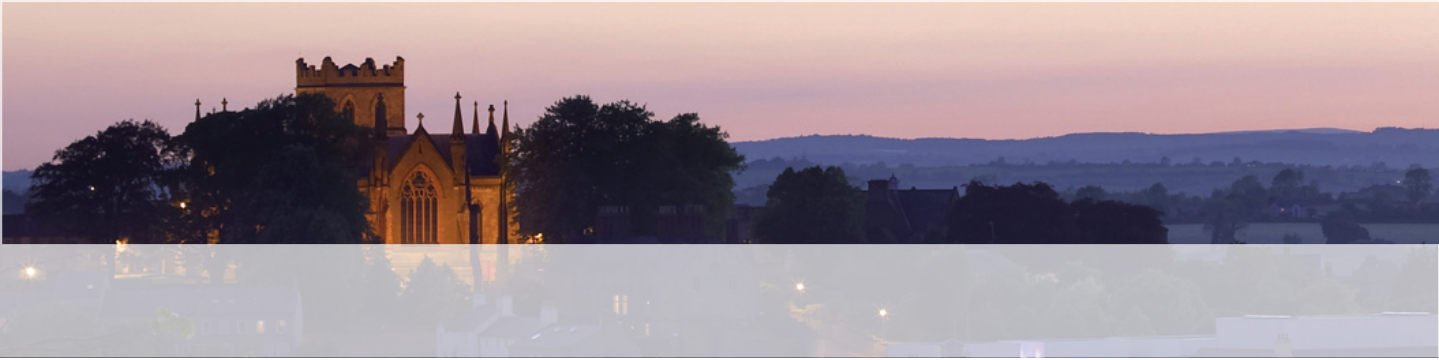
### **Reinvigorating the North American Market:**

3.1.10 Tourism Ireland carried out a root and branch review of the North American market. The Review found that interest in visiting the island of Ireland has never been higher. A new marketing strategy and action plan has been developed and adopted for 2007.

### **Maximising opportunities around the Ryder Cup:**

3.1.11 The Ryder Cup at the K Club, Co Kildare, in September 2006, provided a unique springboard on which to leverage Ireland’s profile overseas. Tourism Ireland teams around the world exploited all possible opportunities with an extensive marketing programme.

3.1.12 Further information on Tourism Ireland can be found on the Company’s website: [www.tourismireland.com](http://www.tourismireland.com).



## Education

3.2.1 The aspects of North/South co-operation in Education that were agreed for initial consideration by the North/South Ministerial Council were education for children with special needs; educational under-achievement; teacher qualifications; and school, youth and teacher exchanges.

### Activities

#### School Youth and Teacher Exchanges

3.2.2 During 2006 the two Education Departments continued to assess the best way forward for managing North-South exchanges. The Departments engaged in discussions with the North/South Exchange Consortium in relation to progressing the potential to establish a Charitable Trust.

#### Literacy/Numeracy Working Group

3.2.3 The Working Group continued during 2006 to discuss, share expertise and receive updates on Department of Education and Science (DES) and Department of Education (DE (NI)) initiatives and reviews around literacy and numeracy. These include the DES initiative, *Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools* (DEIS) and the *National Assessment of English Reading 2004* (NAER), as well as the DE (NI) initiatives, *Raising Achievement Programme*, *School Improvement Policy* and *NI Literacy and Numeracy Strategies*.

#### EU Peace II Programme

3.2.4 Under the PEACE II (Extension) Programme, Measure 5.5 - "education, cross-border school and youth co-operation" which was jointly implemented by DES and DE (NI) was subsumed into Measure 5.4 - "promoting joint approaches to social education, training and human resource development". During 2006 DES participated on Selection Panels on applications for funding under Measures 5.3 and 5.4.

3.2.5 All 14 projects jointly implemented by DES and DE (NI) and funded under Measure 5.5 ceased activities in mid to late 2006.

3.2.6 The two Departments took part in consultation events organised by the SEUPB in relation to the development of Operational Programmes for the proposed PEACE II and INTERREG IIIA successor programmes.

#### North/South Education and Training Committee for Youth Work

3.2.7 The North/South Education and Training Standards Committee for Youth Work (NSETS) was formally launched in Armagh in January. The primary function of the NSETS committee is the professional endorsement of youth work education and training. Its establishment followed detailed discussions between representatives of the Department of Education and Science and the National Youth Work Advisory Committee (Ireland) and the relevant agencies in Northern Ireland: the Youth Council for Northern Ireland (YCNI), the Youth Work Training Board (a sub-committee of YCNI) and the Department of Education for Northern Ireland. An agreement with corresponding agencies in Britain means that youth work training courses with NSETS endorsement will also be formally recognised by the JNC (Joint Negotiating Committee for Youth and Community Workers, UK).

3.2.8 The first programme to be assessed by NSETS, the Higher Certificate/BA (Hons) in Youth Work at Dundalk Institute of Technology, received formal endorsement in September 2006. Programmes at the University of Ulster and National University of Ireland, Maynooth are being considered for endorsement in 2007.

#### Special Educational Needs (SEN) Cross-Border Professional Exchange Programme

3.2.9 During 2006 the Programme's Autism, Dyslexia and Marginalised Youth North-South cluster groups completed its work which led to the development of a number of useful resources for teachers and other relevant groups working with children and young people with special educational



## Chapter 3 NSMC Activities 2006 - Areas for Co-operation

needs. This programme enabled teachers, principals and educational psychologists from Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland to participate in professional exchanges between December 2004 and May 2006. The project managers were also successful in their bid for funding under the Peace II (Extension) Programme for a follow-on programme - "The Cross Border School and Parent Community Partnership Programme", which commenced in September 2006. The Area Development Management/Combat Poverty Agency will act as the implementing body for the funding period.

### **Middletown Centre for Autism**

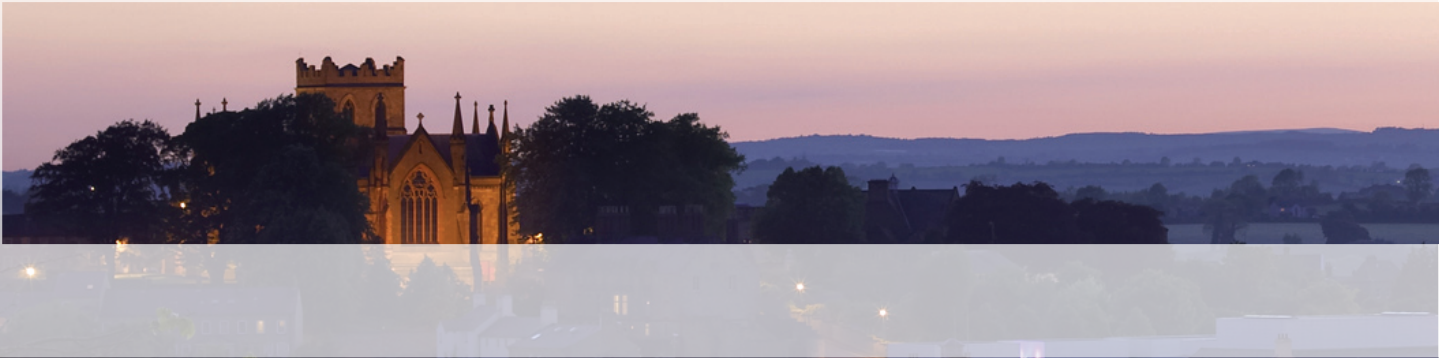
3.2.10 Following the approval of the Economic Appraisal, DE (NI) and DES continued to work closely to make progress on a number of key areas of the project. This included working on the commencement of design on the site refurbishment project; appointment of the consultant firm to recruit the senior management team including the Chief Executive Officer; and working on establishing the limited company to manage the Centre and arrangements for the appointment of the management board. A Development Manager was appointed during 2006 to progress the development of the centre and manage the development of corporate governance protocols.

### **North-West Education and Skills Development Seminar**

3.2.11 At the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference (BIIGC) meeting in May 2006, the British and Irish Governments committed to working together to explore ways in which they could more closely co-operate to maximise the potential of the North West Region. The Governments approved a new cross-border North West Gateway Initiative which included joint analysis and actions by agencies in skills and training and in further and higher education.

3.2.12 In June 2006 DES and the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) in Northern Ireland hosted a seminar in the Magee College campus of the University of Ulster. The seminar was attended by senior representatives

from a wide range of government agencies, education and training providers, and businesses. A key outcome from this seminar was the establishment of the North West Workforce Development Forum which brings together representatives of the District Councils on both sides of the border, along with Directors of the further and higher education colleges in Derry/Londonderry and east Donegal, to work with major employers in both jurisdictions to examine the regional skill needs throughout the entire North West. The Forum met for the first time in November 2006.



# Agriculture

3.3.1 The aspects of North/South co-operation in Agriculture that were agreed for initial consideration by the NSMC were, animal and plant health policy and research, Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) issues and rural development. Progress is outlined below.

## All-Island Animal Health Strategy

- There is ongoing co-operation between the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARDNI) in Northern Ireland and the Department of Agriculture and Food (DAF) in Dublin on this strategy.
- The nine policy working groups established under North/South arrangements continue to meet on a regular basis. The main focus of these groups has been increasing co-operation, sharing of information, and addressing specific issues that arise from time to time (e.g. Avian Influenza contingency plans and trade arrangements for sheep). Since the decision at EU level to lift the BSE ban on exports from the United Kingdom from 3 May 2006 discussions have continued between DAF and DARD to facilitate the trade of cattle within the island.
- Progress has been made in regard to Tuberculosis and Brucellosis, sheep identification and portal controls.
- The main focus of the NSMC policy working groups has been to increase and foster co-operation and consultation between the two administrations. The level and strength of co-operation that exists at present is well beyond that in place prior to the NSMC process and this applies both at central and local level across all policy areas. The Special Investigations Unit in DAF has participated in a number of successful and high profile joint investigations with their northern counterparts and continues to liaise successfully on ongoing investigations.

## All-Island Plant Health and Research Strategy

- DARD and DAF officials meet on an annual basis to discuss Plant Health. The last meeting took place in November 2006. Officials from both administrations continue to maintain contact on other issues of mutual interest.
- There is a North/South Pesticide Steering Group which continues to develop the following four specific areas which were identified for ongoing North/South co-operation in agriculture:
  - pesticide usage surveys;
  - exchange of information on registered plant protection products and their uses;
  - distributor and operator training and certification, and equipment registration and calibration; and
  - further co-operation between DAF and DARD in relation to the registration of plant protection products, including policy issues and the problem of illegal cross-border trade.

The group also exchanges information on policy developments and research projects.

## CAP Issues

- At the stage when CAP was being reviewed, both Departments examined emerging changes to the various rules of the **Common Agriculture Policy** and developed appropriate strategies for dealing with these flowing from the Mid-Term Review agreement, particularly in relation to Cross-Compliance requirements.
- The respective Paying Agencies met to discuss the implications for the existing systems following the Mid Term Review of the Common Agricultural Policy.
- Views on issues relating to European Union enlargement and World Trade Organisation are



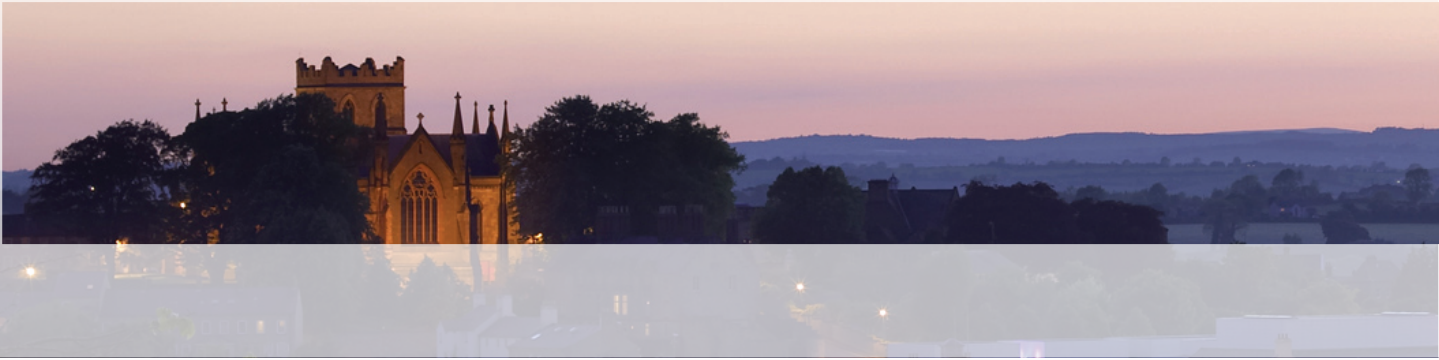


## Chapter 3 NSMC Activities 2006 - Areas for Co-operation

exchanged between both officials and at Ministerial levels.

### **Rural Development**

- Work continues between DARD and the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (DCRGA) on the implementation of a number of cross-border measures under the PEACE II Programme and INTERREG IIIA Programme. Under INTERREG, fourteen cross-border Partnerships have been awarded funding to deliver rural development initiatives including rural tourism, village renewal, enterprise development and sustainable energy production (bio-diesel from rape seed).



## Environment

3.4.1 The aspects of North/South co-operation in Environment that were agreed for initial consideration by the NSMC include water quality management, waste management in a cross-border context, research into environmental protection, environmental databases, environmental impact of agriculture, and information exchange and environmental awareness; and identification of strategies and activities which would contribute to a coherent all-island approach to the achievement of sustainable development.

3.4.2 During 2006 progress continued on the agreed environment work programme.

3.4.3 Ongoing projects include:

- The Working Group on Water Quality established under the North/South Ministerial Council continued to meet on a regular basis. The Group comprises officials from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the South and the Department of the Environment (DOE) and the Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) in the North. In accordance with proposals set out in the joint publication "Managing our Shared Waters" (2003) the group has during 2006 been augmented with attendees from lead local authorities in Ireland (Donegal and Monaghan County Councils) and meets as the North/South Water Framework Directive Co-ordination Group;
- A high degree of co-ordination continued in relation to implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. In particular work was ongoing on an EU INTERREG IIIA funded North/South project (NS-SHARE) to implement the Water Framework Directive and to enhance water management on a cross-border basis. The project, costing over €7.5 million, commenced in August 2004, and is due to be completed in 2008;
- A North/South Market Development Steering Group - comprising representatives of DEHLG, DOE (Northern Ireland), Enterprise Ireland, the UK based Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP), Invest Northern Ireland, EPA and the Northern Ireland Waste Management Advisory Board - is working to identify options to encourage the expansion of waste recycling on an all-island basis, and in particular, to develop a joint approach to marketing and manufacturing development for secondary materials and recyclates;
- Phase One of a study commissioned by the North/South Market Development Steering Group to determine the feasibility of establishing a paper mill on the island of Ireland, was published in August 2006. The study was led by the North/South Market Development Steering Group and was funded jointly by the DOE through WRAP and by DEHLG and paves the way for Phase Two which will focus on how to stimulate business interest;
- The EHS and the EPA are taking forward an environmental research database development programme aimed at providing wide access to shared information. **A North/South Website of Environmental Research projects (aNSwer - [www.answer-online.org](http://www.answer-online.org))** was launched in 2002. It is an interactive website which also includes a shared database for recording sources of environmental information, which was populated initially with information on water. Progress in both populating and promoting the website continued throughout 2006; and
- ENFO, the DEHLG Information Agency, and EHS continued to raise environmental awareness in areas of common interest through a joint education work programme. This included joint education and awareness exhibitions, web-site links, sharing of publications and the organisation of a Colloquium on Recycling for Environment Awareness Officers from the South and local authority Recycling Officers from the North.



## Chapter 3 NSMC Activities 2006 - Areas for Co-operation

### Health

3.5.1 The aspects of North/South co-operation in Health that were agreed for initial consideration by the NSMC were Accident and Emergency Services, Planning for Major Emergencies, High Technology Equipment, Cancer Research and Health Promotion.

#### Activities

3.5.2 Progress was made in the designated areas of health co-operation in 2006 as follows:

#### Accident and Emergency Services

3.5.3 This area covers acute services generally as well as accident and emergency services.

3.5.4 The dental services in the Health Services Executive North Western Area (HSE NW) and the Western Health and Social Services Board (WHSSB) established a cross-border team with the aim of expanding the Oral Maxillo Facial Service at Altnagelvin Hospital.

3.5.5 The Department of Health and Children (DOHC) has provided funding to sustain cross border oral maxillo-facial services. The initiative will include the integrated provision of a day care and out-patient service across the HSE Western Region and the Western Health and Social Services Board regions. The first phase of the service, which provides day care and out-patient dental services to Letterkenny and Sligo, is currently in place. In addition, a trauma centre has been made available at Altnagelvin for patients from across the Border.

3.5.6 The cross border Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) service is now making a significant impact on waiting lists. Donegal resident clients have been attending both Altnagelvin and Tyrone County Hospitals for clinics and procedures. Additional ENT clinics are being established in the Letterkenny area. These will be serviced by the consultant team from Altnagelvin and Sperrin Lakeland Hospitals Group.

#### Planning for Major Emergencies

3.5.7 The DOHC and the Department of Health Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) commissioned Cooperation and Working Together (CAWT) to advance the project management of a number of proposals put forward by the Working Groups established under the NSMC in the areas of Emergency Planning and Pre-Hospital Emergency Care.

3.5.8 These projects are:

- Cross-Border First Responder Scheme;
- Cross-Border Emergency Planning Community Fora; and
- Cross-Border Major Incident Emergency Plans.

3.5.9 The Project Steering Group, which comprises representatives from both DHSSPS and the DOHC and CAWT, agreed a work programme for 2006/2007 for the implementation of agreed projects.

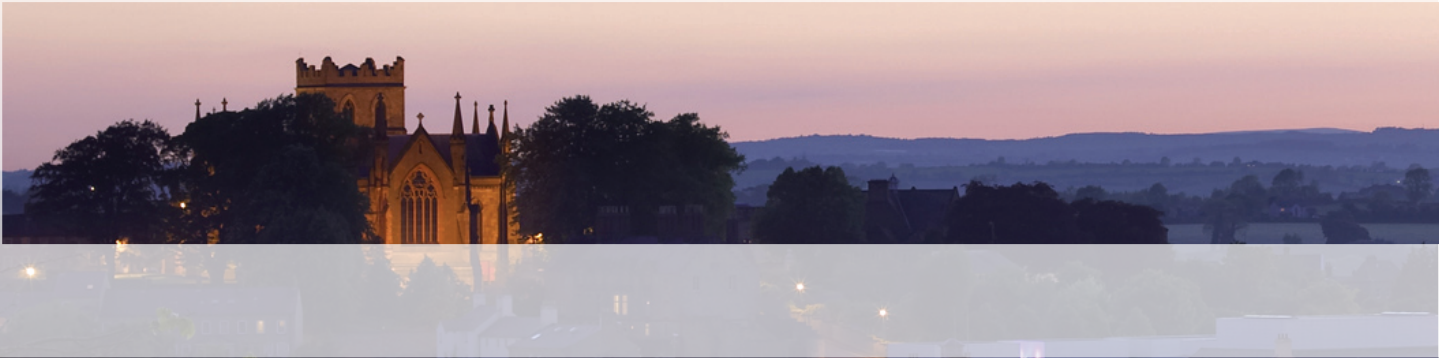
3.5.10 CAWT has given priority to compiling a directory that will aid an effective response to any major incident that results in an abnormal demand on hospital services in the CAWT area. The directory will hold information on the number of acute and high dependency beds, together with information on the main specialities such as neurology, burns, orthopaedics, paediatrics and Intensive Care Units provided by particular hospitals.

#### High Technology

3.5.11 There has been little progress in relation to Co-operation on High Technology for some years. However, new personnel have been assigned to the subject of high technology assessment and both Departments are planning to reinvigorate the process.

#### Cancer Research

3.5.12 Co-operation on cancer research continues in the context of the Ireland-Northern Ireland-National Cancer Institute (NCI) (based in Washington, USA) Cancer Consortium, particularly in the area of cancer clinical trials.



A new Memorandum of Understanding with an extended remit in terms of cancer prevention and control was signed by the Ireland and Northern Ireland Health Ministers and the Director of the NCI on 13 November 2006 at a conference in Belfast under the auspices of the All Ireland-National Cancer Institute Cancer Consortium. The agreement reaffirms the commitment of the governments of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the United States of America to supporting the work of the Cancer Consortium. Options for the progression of an All-Ireland Cancer Biobank under the auspices of the Consortium are being considered.

#### **Health Promotion**

3.5.13 Health Promotion Co-operation on various initiatives, including public information campaigns, anti-smoking, physical activity, nutrition, breastfeeding and developing the Health Promoting Hospital Network have proved very effective in the past. Since the devolvement of executive functions from the DOHC, the HSE has now taken on responsibility for these campaigns and initiatives. Consequently, it was agreed that the HSE would attend all future North/South meetings to explore further opportunities for joint working in these areas. The first such meeting between the Health Promotion Agency of Northern Ireland, the Health Service Executive and both Departments of Health took place on 26th October 2006. Quarterly meetings will continue to take place during the course of 2007.

3.5.14 Active joint co-operation in health promotion during 2006 included:-

- Research into health and lifestyle issues;
- Joint hosting of international conferences;
- A joint all island conference on breastfeeding; and
- Representation in strategic planning fora on men's health, breastfeeding, suicide prevention and obesity.



## Transport

3.6.1 The aspects of North/South co-operation in Transport that were agreed for initial consideration by the NSMC were strategic transport planning, and road and rail safety. While co-operation would primarily arise in respect of road and rail planning, it would take account of issues arising in the port and airport sectors.

### Activities

#### Roads

3.6.2 Regular meetings of the Cross Border Roads Steering Group continued to take place in 2006 with representatives from the Roads Service and the Department for Regional Development (DRD) in Northern Ireland and the National Roads Authority and Department of Transport (DoT) in Ireland discussing matters of mutual interest and co-ordinating policies and procedures for the development of the strategic road networks with the emphasis on cross border roads.

3.6.3 Roads Service officials have consulted with the National Roads Authority during the preparation of the Regional Strategic Transport Network Transport Plan, published in March 2005. This plan includes around £1 billion for the improvement of the key strategic road network in Northern Ireland up to 2015 and incorporates the joint single contract Newry to Dundalk link, an £80m high standard dual carriageway, due to be opened in late summer/early autumn 2007.

3.6.4 INSTANT, a European funded project focusing on traffic control and travel information on the Belfast / Dublin corridor has been jointly developed.

#### Road Safety

3.6.5 The National Safety Council in Ireland continued to work closely with the Department of the Environment in Northern Ireland in developing joint road safety campaigns,

and continued to liaise closely in relation to research, EU Seatbelts Directive and casualty reduction targets.

3.6.6 Officials from both jurisdictions continued to cooperate on the mutual recognition of driving disqualifications.

3.6.7 Joint advertising campaigns, underpinned by data collected and aimed at tackling shared priorities (e.g. drink-driving and anti-speeding), were agreed.

3.6.8 Officials continued to liaise closely in relation to:

- Road Safety Education Officers;
- Taxi reform;
- Seatbelt wearing;
- Metrication of speed limits; and
- Cooperation and Working Together's (CAWT) 'Steering to Safety' project.

#### Community Transport

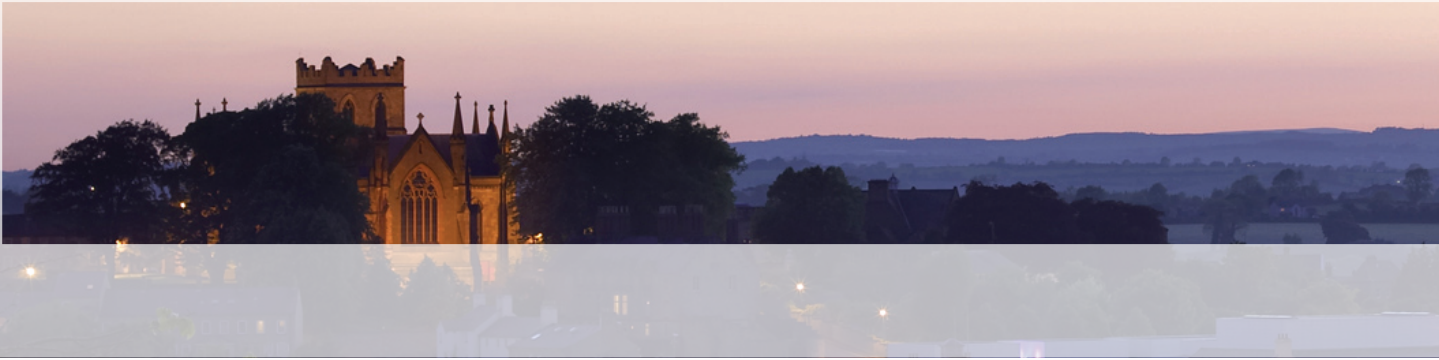
3.6.9 DRD and the DoT are considering community transport services provision in border areas to establish how best to overcome perceived or potential obstacles in relation to funding and licensing of such services. A report is expected in 2007.

#### City of Derry Airport

3.6.10 Following a commitment in principle made in March 2005 at the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference (BIIGC), both the British and Irish Governments continued to progress a joint funding package to enable essential safety measures to be put in place at City of Derry Airport. Both Governments recognise the importance of the airport as a vital piece of infrastructure for the North West regional economy.

#### All Ireland Free Travel Scheme

3.6.11 Arising from discussions between Ministers at the BIIGC, agreement was also reached to introduce an all-island free travel scheme for pensioners, beginning on 1 April 2007, extending the existing cross-border scheme.



## **Rail**

3.6.12 Translink and Iarnród Éireann have continued to work together to develop preliminary options for possible future enhancement of the Belfast and Dublin rail service with a view to increasing the frequency of services and shortening journey times.

3.6.13 In relation to railway safety there is regular contact and sharing of information in relation to best practice particularly in relation to the joint operation of the Dublin-Belfast Enterprise service. Further engagement also continued in relation to the EU Third Railway Package. In addition, the Railway Safety Commission in Ireland and the DRD jointly hosted the 16th International Railway Safety Conference in October 2006.

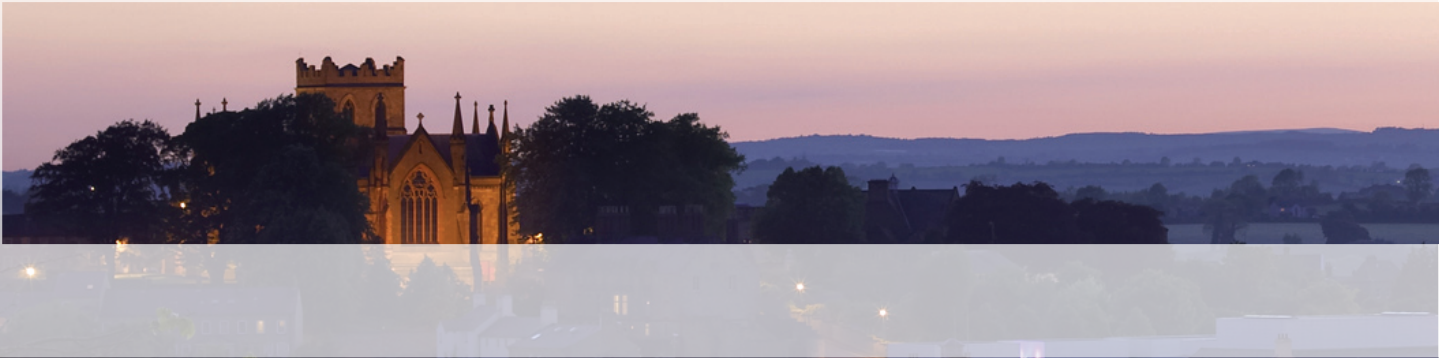
3.6.14 In the freight transport area, both Governments have given support to a CBI/IBEC all-island study of freight transport being funded by Intertrade Ireland.

## **Ports**

3.6.15 In May 2004 the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources (DCMNR) in Ireland and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland jointly as Implementing Agents under the EU INTERREG IIIA Programme awarded €840,500 grant aid funding to Drogheda Port Company to install a Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS). An additional €171,000 was awarded in September 2006. Responsibility for Maritime Transport moved from DCMNR to the DoT on 1 January 2006.

Annex 1  
Decisions Taken Under  
Interim Procedures in 2006





Under the Interim procedures in place the following decisions were taken in 2006.

#### Trade and Business Development

- **Agreed** on 11 October that Ms Rosaleen Doherty should be appointed to the Board of the Trade and Business Development Body, InterTradeIreland, from the date of this decision to 12 December 2006.
- **Approved** on 13 October the determination made by the Trade and Business Development Body to amend the North/South Pension Scheme to provide (a) a purchase of Added Years Facility; (b) an extension to the period during which Reserved Rights Members may opt to join the core North/South Pension Scheme; (c) a facility to make additional periodic contributions; and (d) an enabling provision for compensation to those who retire early.
- **Extended** on 11 December the term of office of Ms Rosaleen Doherty for one year, to 12 December 2007; **extended** the term of office of the members of the Board for one year, to 12 December 2007, on existing terms and conditions, including that the **extended** term of office of each member is subject to earlier termination by NSMC, at its absolute discretion, by notice in writing; **agreed** that Mr Martin Naughton's appointment as Chairperson and Mr Barry Fitzsimons' appointment as Vice-Chairperson be extended to 12 December 2007; **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to write to Ms Rosaleen Doherty and **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to write to Board members.

#### Food Safety

- **Noted** on 13 June the Food Safety Promotion Board's Annual Report 2004 incorporating Financial Statements for 2004.
- **Approved** on 13 October the determination made by the Food Safety Promotion Board to amend the North/South Pension Scheme to provide (a) a

purchase of Added Years Facility; (b) an extension to the period during which Reserved Rights Members may opt to join the core North/South Pension Scheme; (c) a facility to make additional periodic contributions; and (d) an enabling provision for compensation to those who retire early.

- **Approved** on 16 November the Food Safety Promotion Board Business Plan for 2007; and **recommended** the budget provision for the Food Safety Promotion Board for 2007, including the respective Northern and Southern contributions.
- **Approved** on 21 November the FSPB Code of Conduct for members of safe food, the Food Safety Promotion Board, the staff of the Body and members of the Advisory Board.
- **Extended** on 11 December the term of office of the members of the Board for one year, to 12 December 2007, on existing terms and conditions, including that the extended term of office of each member is subject to earlier termination by NSMC, at its absolute discretion, by notice in writing; **agreed** that Mr Bertie Kerr's appointment as Chairperson and Professor Charlie Daly's appointment as Vice-Chairperson be extended to 12 December 2007; and **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to write to Board members.

#### Aquaculture and Marine

- **Approved** on 26 February the proposed organisation structure; **approved** the 18 additional posts, the redesign of 2 posts, and the upgrading of 24 posts; **approved** the engagement of a recruitment consultant to undertake the selection procedures for 5 senior posts; **noted** that a full and formal loading review will be undertaken 12-18 months after the implementation of the proposed structure; and **agreed** that decisions on upgradings of existing postholders and possible retrospective payments of salary shall be agreed between the





## Annex 1 Decisions Taken Under Interim Procedures in 2006

Agency and relevant Sponsoring Departments, North and South, subject to legal advice and the approval of Finance Departments, and without further reference to the NSMC.

- **Noted** on 3 August the Loughs Agency of the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission's Financial Statements and Annual Report for the periods ending 31 December 2003 and 31 December 2004.
- **Noted** on 8 November (i) a consultation with NSMC as required by the Implementation Bodies Agreement on the Foyle and Carlingford Fisheries (Northern Ireland) Order 2007; (ii) that following this consultation with NSMC Ministers the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will commence an 8 week public consultation in Northern Ireland on the draft Order and (iii) that equivalent legislation the Foyle and Carlingford Fisheries Bill 2006 will be presented to the Dail in early December.
- **Extended** on 11 December the term of office of the current members of the Board for one year, to 12 December 2007, on existing terms and conditions, including that the extended term of office of each member is subject to earlier termination by NSMC, at its absolute discretion, by notice in writing; **agreed** that Mr Peter Savage's appointment as Chairperson be extended to 12 December 2007; and **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to write to Board members.

### Special EU Programmes

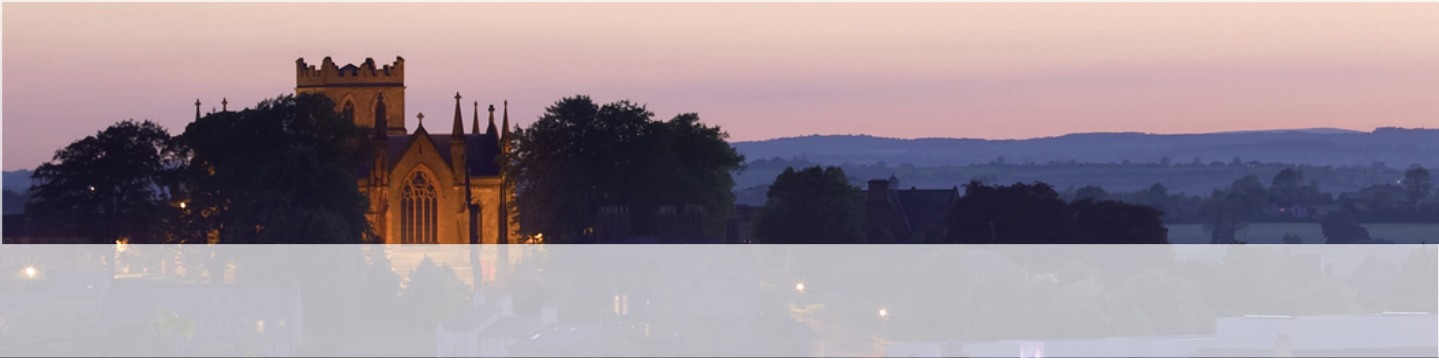
- **Noted** on 27 June the SEUPB Annual Report and Accounts for 2004.
- **Approved** on 28 September the Special European Union Programmes Body's Business Plan for 2007; and **recommended** the budget provision for the Special European Union Programmes Body for 2007, including the respective Northern Ireland and Southern contributions.
- **Approved** on 13 October the determination made by the Special EU Programmes Body to amend

the North/South Pension Scheme to provide (a) a purchase of Added Years Facility; (b) an extension to the period during which Reserved Rights Members may opt to join the core North/South Pension Scheme; (c) a facility to make additional periodic contributions; and (d) an enabling provision for compensation to those who retire early.

- **Approved** on 28 October the creation of a fixed-term post for the SEUPB which will provide support to the CEO Pension Committee; and **noted** that a review of the post will be undertaken in 9 months.
- **Noted** on 1 November the SEUPB Annual Report and Accounts for 2005.

### Language

- **Approved** on 14 January the Language Body Annual Report and Accounts for the period ended 31 December 2001.
- **Approved** on 14 February the proposed new staffing structure including the additional posts of Director of Corporate Services, Development Officer, Grants Administration Officer and the upgrading of the post of Finance Officer, to be at a grading and salary scale equivalent in NICS to that of Deputy Principal, Staff Officer, Administration Officer and Executive Officer II respectively; and **noted** that the recruitment costs and additional salary costs to be incurred will be reflected in the 2006 Business Plan and Budget of the Ulster-Scots Agency still to be approved by Ministers. The timescale for recruiting staff to fill these posts will be for the Agency to decide in conjunction with other priorities in its Corporate and Business Plans.
- **Approved** on 20 March the 2006 Business Plans for Foras na Gaeilge and the Ulster-Scots Agency respectively; **recommended** the budget provision for the North/South Language Body for 2006, including the respective contributions North and South; and **noted** the projected total budget for 2007.



- **Agreed** on 12 April that the post of Communications and Marketing Manager in Foras na Gaeilge be graded at Assistant Principal level and that the proposed HEO post in the Arts and Public Service Division be graded at Executive Officer.
- **Agreed** on 12 April that Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh be appointed to perform the duties of CEO in Foras na Gaeilge as from 1 April 2006 until the recruitment of a new CEO has been completed and the successful applicant takes up duty.
- **Confirmed** on 12 April the agreement reached at their meeting on 6 March 2006 that 30 staff posts of Foras na Gaeilge should be located in Gaoth Dobhair. The Ministers **further** agreed that the Board of Foras should now bring forward firm proposals in relation to the phasing of the location of this staff complement to Gaoth Dobhair and a decision on the precise sections and functions to be located there.
- **Agreed** on 18 July the temporary appointments of a Project Manager and Lexicography Editor to the English-Irish Dictionary Project in Foras na Gaeilge on a three-year contract basis.
- **Approved** on 19 July the appointment of Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh as Chief Executive of Foras na Gaeilge subject to the conditions outlined and **agreed** that a public announcement of the appointment will be made immediately.
- **Agreed** on 12 October that Mr Eoghan Mac Cormaic and Mr Pádraig Ó Biadha should be appointed to the Board of the North/South Language Body from the date of this decision to 12 December 2006.
- **Approved** on 13 October the determination made by the Ulster-Scots Agency to amend the North/South Pension Scheme to provide (a) a purchase of Added Years Facility; (b) an extension to the period during which Reserved Rights Members may opt to join the core North/South Pension Scheme; (c) a facility to make additional periodic contributions; and (d) an enabling provision for compensation to those who retire early.
- **Approved** on 7 November 3 additional posts; 2 Project Officers and a Project Administration Officer, for a period not exceeding 16 months at a grading and salary scale equivalent to Executive Officer 1 and Administrative Officer in the NICS and 1 Project Officer at Executive Officer in the Irish Civil Service; and **noted** that the SEUPB Peace II Programme will provide £206,429 of the total cost of the project which is £265,614. The Ulster-Scots Agency will provide an in kind contribution of £59,185.
- **Approved** on 22 November the proposed new staffing structure which includes the posts of Education Development Officer and the Information, Communication and Marketing Manager to be at a grading and salary scale equivalent to Staff Officer in the NICS and post of Administration Officer to be at a grading and salary scale equivalent to Administrative Officer in the Irish Civil Service.
- **Extended** on 11 December the term of office of Mr Eoghan Mac Cormaic and Mr Pádraig Ó Biadha for one year, to 12 December 2007; **extended** the term of office of the members of the Board for one year, to 12 December 2007, on existing terms and conditions, including that the extended term of office of each member is subject to earlier termination by NSMC, at its absolute discretion, by notice in writing; **agreed** that Maighrhead Uí Mháirtín's appointment as Chairperson of the Irish Language Agency and Mr Mark Thompson's appointment as Chairperson of the Ulster-Scots Agency be extended to 12 December 2007; **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to write to Mr Eoghan Mac Cormaic and Mr Pádraig Ó Biadha; and **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to write to Board members.



## Annex 1 Decisions Taken Under Interim Procedures in 2006

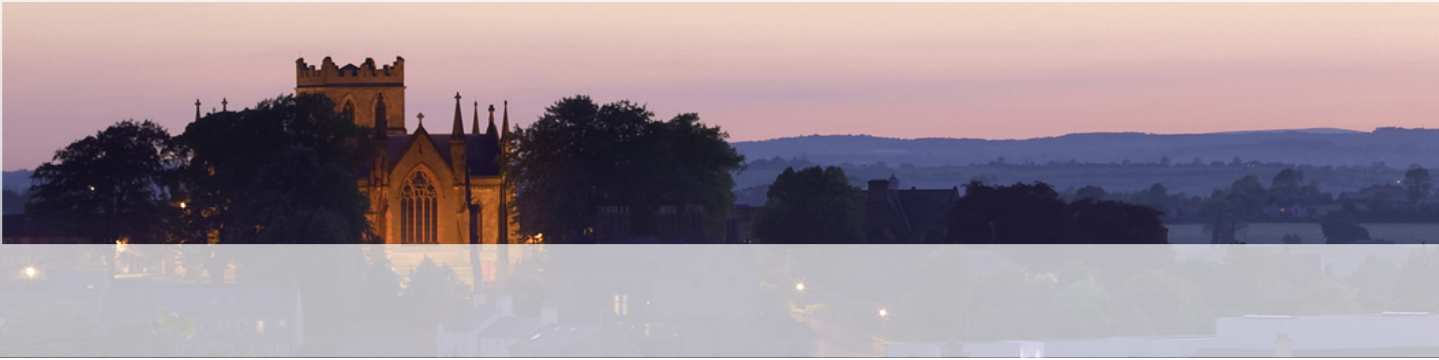
### Inland Waterways

- **Approved** on 23 January the Waterways Ireland Business Plan for 2006; **recommended** the budget provision for Waterways Ireland for 2006, including the respective Northern Ireland and Southern contributions; and **noted** the projected total budget for 2007.
- **Approved** on 13 October the determination made by Waterways Ireland to amend the North/South Pension Scheme to provide (a) a purchase of Added Years Facility; (b) an extension to the period during which Reserved Rights Members may opt to join the core North/South Pension Scheme; (c) a facility to make additional periodic contributions; and (d) an enabling provision for compensation to those who retire early.
- **Approved** on 20 November the disposal of two areas of River Shannon frontage at Coothall, Co Roscommon measuring approximately 3,038 square metres and 4,063 sq metres by two leases for 99 years to Mrs Maura Doherty to facilitate the construction of a 24 berth marina and to regularise the existence of a 40 berth marina.
- **Approved** on 4 December the Waterways Ireland Employee Code of Conduct.
- **Approved** on 13 December the disposal of an area of 280sq metres of Shannon river frontage at Lanesborough, Co Roscommon by lease for 99 years to Fast Fit Doors Limited to facilitate the construction of a nine berth private mooring facility.
- **Approved** on 13 December the disposal of an area of 100sq metres of canal bank along the Shannon-erne Waterway at Cullyleenan, Ballyconnell, Co Cavan by lease for 99 years to Cullyleenan Properties to facilitate the construction of an eight berth private mooring facility.
- **Approved** on 13 December the disposal of an area of 798sq metres of canal bank along the Shannon-

erne Waterway at Kilcorby, Belturbet, Co Cavan by lease for 99 years to Kilcorby Chalets Ltd subject to the conditions outlined in paragraph 4; to facilitate the construction of a private 4/5 berth mooring facility and also regularise the existence of a previous encroachment which occurred during the 1990s.

### Tourism

- **Approved** on 6 January the Tourism Ireland Business Plan for 2006; **recommended** the budget provision for Tourism Ireland for 2006, including the respective Northern Ireland and Southern contributions; and **noted** the projected total budget for 2007.
- **Approved** on 4 July the re-appointment of Mr Paul O'Toole as Chief Executive Officer of the tourism marketing company, Tourism Ireland Ltd., for a further period of five years with effect from 1 July 2006, subject to the new contract being agreed with Finance Departments.
- **Approved** on 30 August an increase in Tourism Ireland's establishment number by 4 to 156.
- **Noted** on 2 October Tourism Ireland's Annual Report and Accounts for 2005.
- **Approved** on 13 October the determination made by Tourism Ireland Limited to amend the North/South Pension Scheme to provide (a) a purchase of Added Years Facility; (b) an extension to the period during which Reserved Rights Members may opt to join the core North/South Pension Scheme; (c) a facility to make additional periodic contributions; and (d) an enabling provision for compensation to those who retire early.
- **Approved** on 11 December the requisite change in Article 39 of the Articles of Association as follows: The sentence "*the first Board of Directors shall serve for a period of not exceeding six years*" shall be changed to read "*the first Board of Directors shall serve for a period not exceeding seven years*";



**directed** the Joint Secretaries to advise, in writing, the Company Secretary, of the consent to the change to Article 39; **extended** the initial period of appointment of the first Board of Tourism Ireland Limited from six to seven years, the decision to become effective when the approved change to Article 39 is made by the members of the Company; and **agreed** that the appointment of Mr Andrew Coppell as Chairperson and Mrs Ann Riordan as Vice-Chairperson be extended from six to seven years.

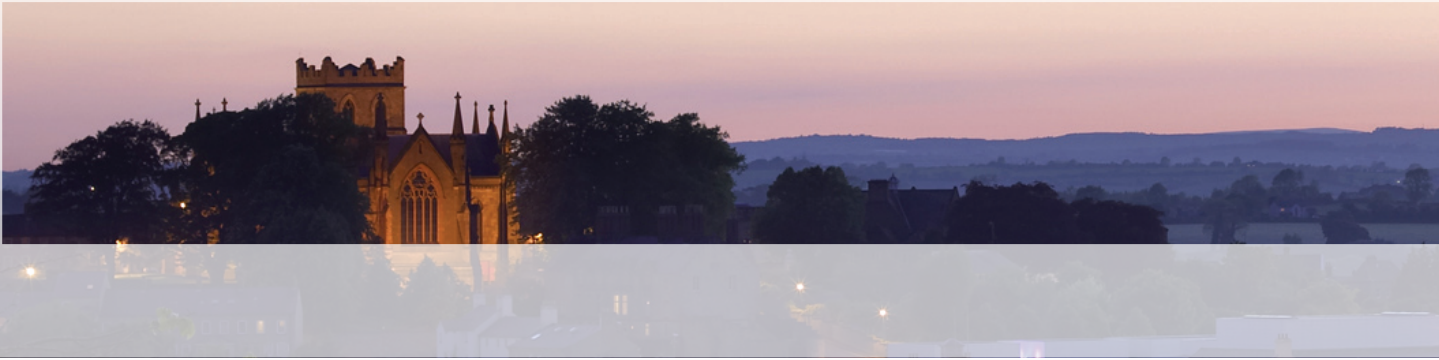
#### **Institutional**

- Approved on 1 February the Freedom of Information Code of Practice for North/South Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland Limited; and formally introduced/enacted the Code with effect from 1 February 2006.

## Annex 2

# The Joint Secretariat





## Background

Strand Two of the Agreement specified that the North/South Ministerial Council was to be supported by a standing Joint Secretariat, staffed by members of the Northern Ireland Civil Service and the Irish Civil Service. The Southern side of the Joint Secretariat operates under the aegis of the Department of Foreign Affairs, while the Northern side operates under the aegis of the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister.

## Staffing

The Memorandum of Understanding on Procedure agreed by the Council at the Inaugural Plenary meeting in Armagh on 13 December, 1999 set out the arrangements for, and the functions of, the Joint Secretariat of the Council. Under the terms of the Memorandum, it was agreed that the Joint Secretariat would be located in Armagh and headed by Joint Secretaries, one appointed by each Administration. Each side was also required to nominate a Deputy Joint Secretary and other administrative and clerical support staff. Officials from both sides of the Secretariat work alongside one another in shared office accommodation in Armagh. Tom Hanney is the Southern Joint Secretary and Mary Bunting is the Northern Joint Secretary. The Deputy Joint Secretaries are Niall Holohan (Southern) and Pat Donaghy (Northern).

## Functions

Under the terms of the Memorandum, the functions of the Joint Secretariat include:

- arranging the schedule of Council meetings in different formats;
- securing prior political/Ministerial agreement to agendas for meetings of the Council;
- preparing or commissioning papers for meetings of the Council, including in relation to its work programme;
- drafting joint communiqués and records of decisions of the Council;

- communicating decisions of the Council and monitoring their implementation;
- drafting an annual report on the proceedings of the Council;
- acting as a channel of communication with Implementation Bodies and facilitating their development;
- liaising, where appropriate through the designated Department or Office in either jurisdiction with the Secretariat of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference, with the Secretariat of the British-Irish Council and with the North/South joint parliamentary forum and independent consultative forum when established; and
- carrying out such other tasks as the Council may direct.

In addition to the functions above the Joint Secretariat also co-ordinates the Interim Procedures process as outlined in paragraph 1.11 of this Report, and facilitates the development of arrangements within the North/South Bodies to deliver best practice in terms of corporate governance and accountability.

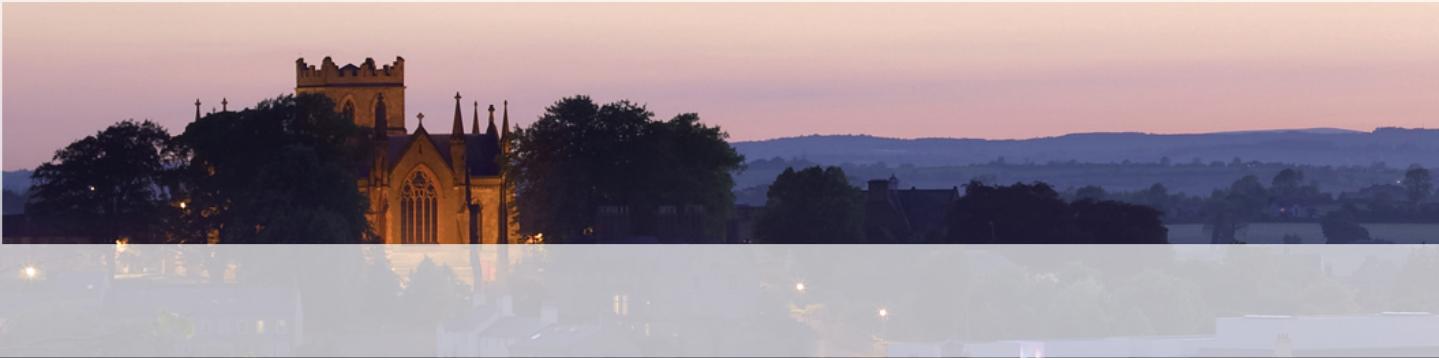
## Funding

Staff costs associated with the Joint Secretariat are met by their parent administrations. All other costs associated with the Joint Secretariat or the Council are divided between the two administrations (See Annex 3).

# Annex 3

## Financial Information





**Financial Information**  
**1 January 2006 - 31 December 2006**

**Expenditure**

Total payments for the financial period 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006 amounted to £1,468,928/€2,150,530 and a breakdown of the main expenditure areas is set out as follows.

**NSMC Expenditure -**  
**1 January 2006 - 31 December 2006**

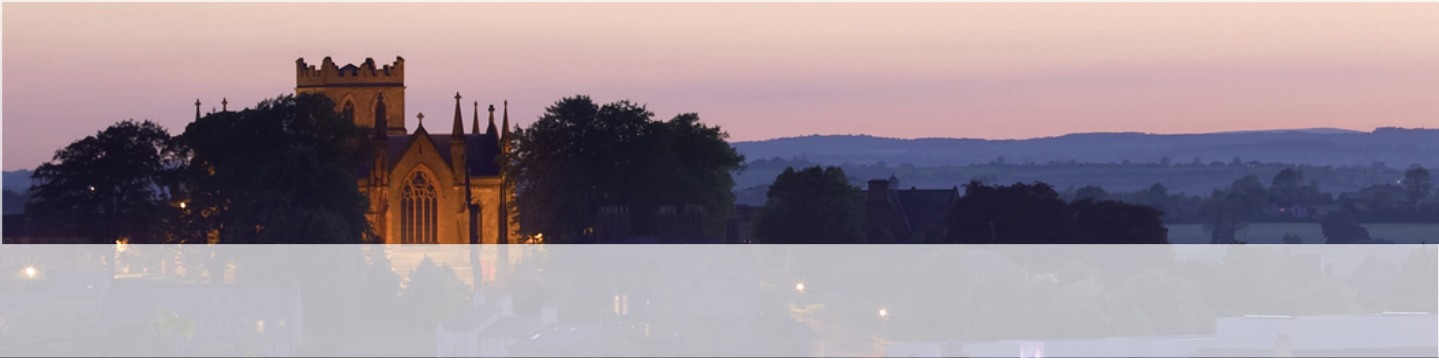
Item	£	€
Salaries	974,614	1,426,848
Administration	449,728	658,407
Meetings/ Conferences	34,586	50,635
Project Expenditure	10,000	14,640
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,468,928</b>	<b>2,150,530</b>



# Annex 4

## North/South Bodies Contact Details





## North/South Bodies Contact Details

### Waterways Ireland

Headquarters:  
20 Darling Street  
Enniskillen  
Co Fermanagh  
BT74 7EW

Tel: (028) 6632 3004  
Fax: (028) 6634 6236  
Email: [info@waterwaysireland.org](mailto:info@waterwaysireland.org)  
Website: [www.waterwaysireland.org](http://www.waterwaysireland.org)

Northern Region:  
Somerview House  
Old Dublin Road  
Carrick on Shannon  
Co Leitrim

Tel: (071) 96 50787  
Fax: (071) 96 22866

Western Region:  
The Harbour  
Scarriff  
Co Clare

Tel: (061) 922033  
Fax: (061) 922036

Eastern Region:  
Floor 2  
Block C  
Ashtowngate  
Navan Road  
Dublin 15

Tel: (01) 8680148  
Fax: (01) 8383647  
E-mail: [info@waterwaysireland.com](mailto:info@waterwaysireland.com)

## Food Safety Promotion Board

7 Eastgate Avenue  
Eastgate  
Little Island  
Cork  
Tel: (021) 230 4100  
Fax: (021) 230 4111  
E-mail: [info@safefood.eu](mailto:info@safefood.eu)  
Website: [www.safefood.eu](http://www.safefood.eu)

Block B  
Abbey Court  
Lower Abbey Street  
Dublin 1

Tel: (01) 4480600  
Fax: (01) 4480699  
E-mail: [info@fseai.ie](mailto:info@fseai.ie)

## INTERTRADEIRELAND - The Trade and Business Development Body

InterTradeIreland  
The Old Gasworks Business Park  
Kilmorey Street  
Newry  
Co Down  
BT34 2DE

Tel: (028) 3083 4100  
Fax: (028) 3083 4155  
E-mail: [info@intertradeireland.com](mailto:info@intertradeireland.com)  
Website: [www.intertradeireland.com](http://www.intertradeireland.com)



## Annex 4 North/South Bodies Contact Details

### Special EU Programmes Body

EU House  
6 Cromac Place  
Belfast  
BT7 2JB

Tel: (028) 9026 6660  
Fax: (028) 9026 6661  
E-mail: [info@seupb.org](mailto:info@seupb.org)  
Website: [www.seupb.org](http://www.seupb.org)

EU House  
11 Kevlin Road  
Omagh  
Co Tyrone  
BT78 1LB

Tel: (028) 822 55750  
Fax: (028) 822 48427  
E-mail: [omagh@seupb.org](mailto:omagh@seupb.org)

EU House  
Castle Meadow Court  
Monaghan  
Republic of Ireland

Tel: (047) 77003  
Fax: (047) 71258  
E-mail: [interreg@seupb.ie](mailto:interreg@seupb.ie)

### The North/South Language Body

Foras na Gaeilge  
7 Cearnóg Mhuirfean  
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Tel: (01) 639 8400  
Fax: (01) 639 8401  
E-mail: [eolas@forasnagaeilge.ie](mailto:eolas@forasnagaeilge.ie)  
Website: [www.forasnagaeilge.ie](http://www.forasnagaeilge.ie)

Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch  
Franklin House  
5th Floor  
10-12 Brunswick Street  
Belfast  
BT2 7GE

Tel: (028) 9023 1113  
Fax: (028) 9023 1898  
E-mail: [info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk](mailto:info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk)  
Website: [www.ulsterscotsagency.com](http://www.ulsterscotsagency.com)

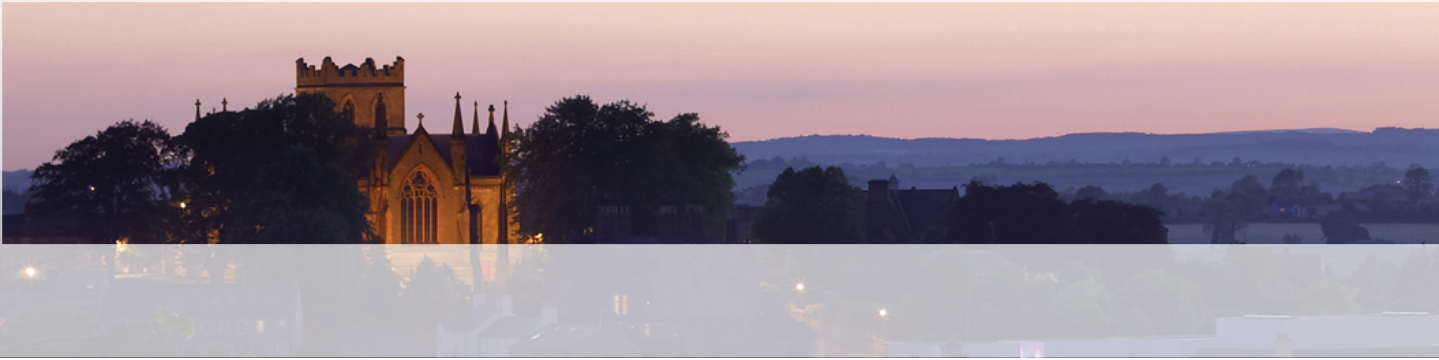
### Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission

Loughs Agency:  
22 Victoria Road  
Waterside  
Derry/Londonderry  
BT47 2AB

Tel: (028) 7134 2100  
Fax: (028) 7134 2720  
E-mail: [general@loughs-agency.org](mailto:general@loughs-agency.org)  
Website: [www.loughs-agency.org](http://www.loughs-agency.org)

Teach Eolais  
Old Quay Lane  
Carlingford  
Co Louth

Tel: (042) 9383888  
Fax: (042) 9383888  
E-mail: [carlingford@loughs-agency.org](mailto:carlingford@loughs-agency.org)



## Tourism Ireland

5th Floor  
Bishop's Square  
Redmond's Hill  
Dublin 2

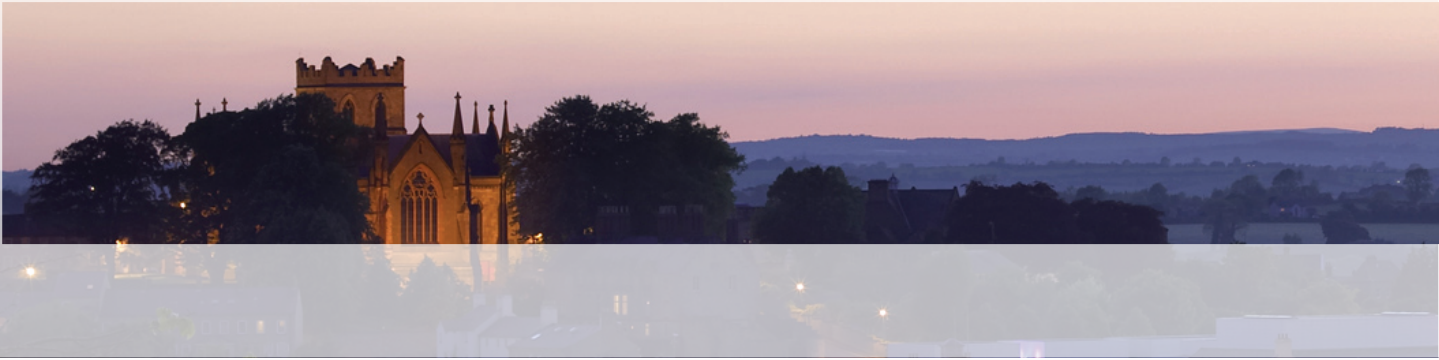
Tel: (01) 476 3400  
Fax: (01) 476 3666  
E-mail: [corporate.dublin@tourismireland.com](mailto:corporate.dublin@tourismireland.com)  
Website: [www.tourismireland.com](http://www.tourismireland.com)

Regional Office:  
Tourism Ireland  
Beresford House  
2 Beresford Road  
Coleraine  
BT52 1GE

Tele: (028) 7035 9200  
Fax: (028) 7032 6932  
Email: [corporate.coleraine@tourismireland.com](mailto:corporate.coleraine@tourismireland.com)  
Website: [www.tourismireland.com](http://www.tourismireland.com)

Annex 5  
North/South Bodies Board  
Members (2006)





## North/South Bodies Board Members (2006)

### Food Safety Promotion Board Advisory Board

Mr Bertie Kerr  
(Chairperson)

Professor Charlie Daly  
(Vice Chairperson)

Mr Don Anderson

Mr Leslie Craig

Ms Carmel Foley \*

Professor Patrick Fottrell

Mr Odran Flynn

Mr Patrick McColgan

Ms Catherine Murphy

Mr Damien O'Dwyer

Ms Anne Speed

Professor Sean Strain

\* Resigned 21 September 2006

## The Trade and Business Development Body

Dr Martin Naughton  
(Chairperson)

Mr Barry Fitzsimons  
(Vice Chairperson)

Ms Mary Ainscough

Mr John Fitzgerald

Mr Jack Gilmour

Ms Jackie Harrison

Mr Carl McCann

Mr Feargal McCormack

Dr Inez McCormack

Mr Robbie Smyth

Ms Rosaleen Doherty \*

\* Appointed 11 October 2006



## Annex 5 North/South Bodies Board Members (2006)

### North/South Language Body - Foras Na Gaeilge

Mrs Maighr ad U  Mh irt n  
(Chairperson of Foras na Gaelige/ Joint Chairperson of An  
Foras Teanga)

Liam Corey

Anne Craig

Gordon McCoy

Aod n Mac P il n

Gear id MacSiacais

Treasa N  Ailp n

Caitr ona N  Cheallaigh \*

Mair ad Nic Sheagh in

Maolsheachlainn   Caolla 

Leachlainn   Cath in

P draig   Duibhir

Gear id   hEara

Diarmuid   Murch 

Br d U  N ill

Eoghan Mac Cormaic \*\*

P draig   Bialha \*\*

\* Resigned 25 September 2006

\*\* Appointed 12 October 2006

### Tha Boord O Ulst r Scotch

Mr Mark Thompson  
(Chairperson of Tha Boord o Ulst r-Scotch/ Joint  
Chairperson of North/South Language Body)

Dr Ian Adamson

Dr P draig de Bh l

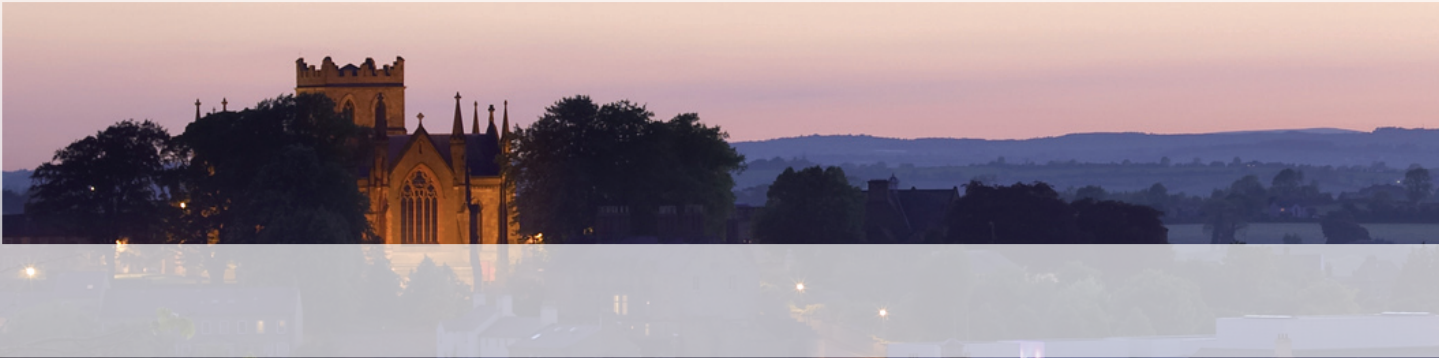
Mr James Devenney

Dr Linde Lunney

Mr  amonn   D mhnaill

Mr Alistair Simpson

Mr Robert Stoker



## The Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission

Peter Savage  
(Chairperson)

Lord Cooke of Islandreagh \*  
(Vice Chairperson)

Mr Jack Allen

Mr Dick Blakiston-Houston

Mr Francis Feely

Dr Patrick J Griffin

Ms Siobhan Logue

Ms Jacqui McConville

Mr Joseph Martin

Mr Tarlach O Crosain

Mr Andrew Ward

\* Resigned 13 March 2006

## Tourism Ireland Limited

Mr Andrew M Coppel  
(Chairperson)

Ms Ann Riordan  
(Vice-Chairperson)

Mr Alan Clarke

Mr Dennis Galway

Mr Howard Hastings

Mr Tony Kelly

Mr Tom McGrath

Mr Felix Mooney

Mr Patrick O'Donoghue

Mr John Power

Mr Shaun Quinn

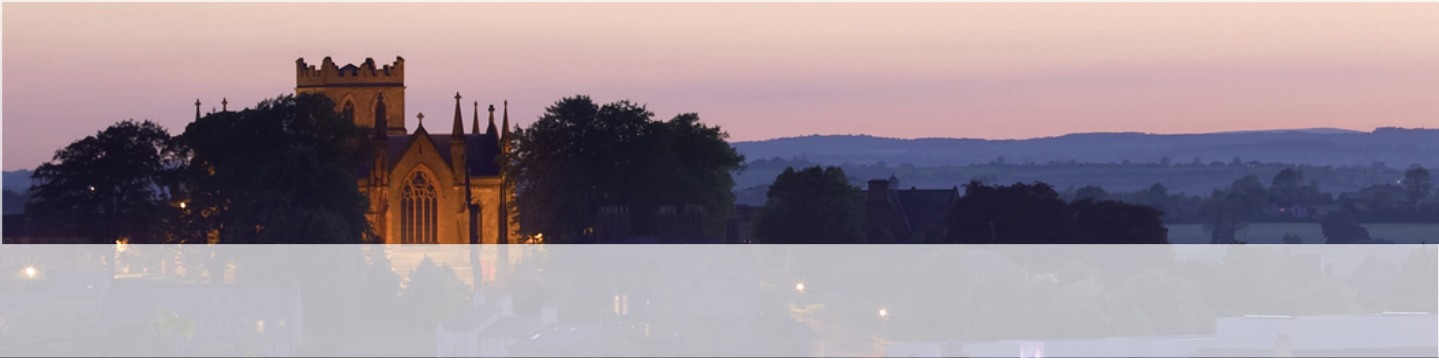
Mr Charles Sinnott



# Annex 6

## Departmental Information





## Departmental Information

### Central Departments

Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister  
Stormont Castle  
Belfast  
BT4 3TT

Tel: (028) 9052 8400  
Fax: (028) 9052 1963

Website: [www.northernireland.gov.uk](http://www.northernireland.gov.uk)

Executive Secretariat\*  
Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister  
Stormont Castle  
Belfast  
BT4 3TT

Tel: (028) 9037 8174  
Fax: (028) 9037 8035

Website: [www.northernireland.gov.uk](http://www.northernireland.gov.uk)

Northern Ireland Division  
Department of the Taoiseach  
Government Buildings  
Upper Merrion Street  
Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 662 4888  
Fax: (01) 662 1972

E-mail: [webmaster@taoiseach.gov.ie](mailto:webmaster@taoiseach.gov.ie)  
Website: [www.taoiseach.gov.ie](http://www.taoiseach.gov.ie)

North/South Section  
Anglo/Irish Division  
Department of Foreign Affairs\*\*  
80 St Stephen's Green  
Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 478 0822

Fax: (01) 478 5949

E-mail: [dfa@iveagh.irlgov.ie](mailto:dfa@iveagh.irlgov.ie)

Website: [www.foreignaffairs.gov.ie](http://www.foreignaffairs.gov.ie)

\* Co-ordinating role on Northern Ireland

\*\* Co-ordinating role on Southern side

### Inland Waterways

Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure  
Interpoint  
20-24 York Street  
Belfast  
BT15 1AQ

Tel: (028) 9025 8825

Fax: (028) 9025 8906

E-Mail: [dcal@dcalni.gov.uk](mailto:dcal@dcalni.gov.uk)

Website: [www.dcalni.gov.uk](http://www.dcalni.gov.uk)

Department of Community, Rural  
and Gaeltacht Affairs  
Dún Aímhígin  
43-49 Mespil Road  
Dublin 4

Tel: (01) 647 3000

Fax: (01) 647 3051

E-Mail: [eolas@pobail.ie](mailto:eolas@pobail.ie)

Website: [www.pobail.ie](http://www.pobail.ie)



## Annex 6 Departmental Information

### Health and Food Safety

Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety  
Castle Buildings  
Stormont  
Belfast  
BT4 3SQ

Tel: (028) 9052 0500  
Fax: (028) 9052 3136  
E-Mail: [webmaster@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:webmaster@dhsspsni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dhsspsni.gov.uk](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk)

Department of Health and Children  
Hawkins House  
Hawkins Street  
Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 635 4000  
Fax: (01) 635 4001  
E-Mail: [webmaster@health.irlgov.ie](mailto:webmaster@health.irlgov.ie)  
Website: [www.dohc.ie](http://www.dohc.ie)

### Trade and Business Development

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment  
Netherleigh  
Massey Avenue  
Belfast

BT4 2JP  
Tel: (028) 9052 9900  
Fax: (028) 9052 9273  
E-Mail: [information@detini.gov.uk](mailto:information@detini.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.detini.gov.uk](http://www.detini.gov.uk)

Department for Employment and Learning  
Adelaide House  
39-49 Adelaide Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8FD  
Tel: (028) 9025 7777  
Fax: (028) 9025 7778  
E-Mail: [del@nics.gov.uk](mailto:del@nics.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.delni.gov.uk](http://www.delni.gov.uk)

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment  
23 Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 631 2121  
Fax: (01) 631 2827  
E-Mail: [info@entemp.ie](mailto:info@entemp.ie)  
Website: [www.entemp.ie](http://www.entemp.ie)

### Special EU Programmes

Department of Finance and Personnel  
Rathgael House  
Balloo Road  
Bangor  
BT19 7NA

Tel: (028) 9185 8111  
Fax: (028) 9185 8109  
E-mail: [DFP.enquiries@dfpni.gov.uk](mailto:DFP.enquiries@dfpni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dfpni.gov.uk](http://www.dfpni.gov.uk)

Department of Finance  
Government Buildings  
Upper Merrion Street  
Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 676 7571  
Fax: (01) 678 9936  
E-mail: [webmaster@finance.irlgov.ie](mailto:webmaster@finance.irlgov.ie)  
Website: [www.finance.gov.ie](http://www.finance.gov.ie)

### Language

Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure  
Interpoint  
20-24 York Street  
Belfast  
BT15 1AQ

Tel: (028) 9025 8825  
Fax: (028) 9025 8906  
E-Mail: [dcal@dcalni.gov.uk](mailto:dcal@dcalni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dcalni.gov.uk](http://www.dcalni.gov.uk)



An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta  
Dún Aimhirgin  
43-49 Bóthar Mespil  
Baile Átha Cliath 4  
Tel: (01) 647 3000  
Fax: (01) 647 3051  
E-Mail: [eolas@pobail.ie](mailto:eolas@pobail.ie)  
Website: [www.pobail.ie](http://www.pobail.ie)

### Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Dundonald House  
Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast  
BT4 3SB  
Tel: (028) 9052 4999  
Fax: (028) 9052 5015  
E-Mail: [dardhelpline@dardni.gov.uk](mailto:dardhelpline@dardni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk)

Department of Communications,  
Marine and Natural Resources  
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2  
Tel: (01) 678 2000  
Fax: (01) 661 8214  
E-Mail: [webmaster@dcmnr.gov.ie](mailto:webmaster@dcmnr.gov.ie)  
Website: [www.dcmnr.gov.ie](http://www.dcmnr.gov.ie)

### Transport

Department of the Environment  
Clarence Court  
10 - 18 Adelaide Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8GB  
Tel: (028) 9054 0540  
Fax: (028) 9054 1169  
E.mail: [cmb@doeni.gov.uk](mailto:cmb@doeni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.doeni.gov.uk](http://www.doeni.gov.uk)

Department for Regional Development  
Clarence Court  
10-18 Adelaide Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8GB  
Tel: (028) 9054 0540  
Fax: (028) 9054 0064  
E-Mail: [enquiries@drdni.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@drdni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.drdni.gov.uk](http://www.drdni.gov.uk)

Department of Transport  
Transport House  
44 Kildare Street  
Dublin 2  
Tel: (01) 670 7444  
Fax: (01) 670 9633  
E-Mail: [info@transport.ie](mailto:info@transport.ie)  
Website: [www.transport.ie](http://www.transport.ie)

### Agriculture

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Dundonald House  
Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast  
BT4 3SB  
Tel: (028) 9052 4999  
Fax: (028) 9052 5003  
E-Mail: [dardhelpline@dardni.gov.uk](mailto:dardhelpline@dardni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk)

Department of Agriculture and Food  
Agriculture House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2  
Tel: (01) 607 2000  
Fax: (01) 661 6263  
E-Mail: [info@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:info@agriculture.gov.ie)  
Website: [www.agriculture.gov.ie](http://www.agriculture.gov.ie)



## Annex 6 Departmental Information

Department of Community Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs  
Dún Aímhirgin  
43-49 Mespil Road  
Baile Átha Cliath 4  
Tel: (01) 647 3000  
Fax: (01) 647 3051  
E-Mail: [eolas@pobail.ie](mailto:eolas@pobail.ie)  
Website: [www.pobail.ie](http://www.pobail.ie)

### Education

Department of Education  
Rathgael House  
Balloo Road  
Bangor  
BT19 7PR

Tel: (028) 9127 9279  
Fax: (028) 9127 9100  
E-Mail: [mail@deni.gov.uk](mailto:mail@deni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)

Department of Education and Science  
Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1

Tel: (01) 889 6400  
Fax: (01) 878 7932  
E-Mail: [info@education.gov.ie](mailto:info@education.gov.ie)  
Website: [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)

### Environment

Department of the Environment  
Clarence Court  
10-18 Adelaide Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8GB

Tel: (028) 9054 0540  
Fax: (028) 9054 1169  
E.mail: [cmb@doeni.gov.uk](mailto:cmb@doeni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.doeni.gov.uk](http://www.doeni.gov.uk)

Department of the Environment, Heritage  
and Local Government  
Custom House  
Dublin 1

Tel: (01) 888 2000  
Fax: (01) 888 2888  
E.mail: [press-office@environ.ie](mailto:press-office@environ.ie)  
Website: [www.environ.ie](http://www.environ.ie)

### Tourism

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment  
Netherleigh  
Massey Avenue  
Belfast  
BT4 2JP

Tel: (028) 9052 9900  
Fax: (028) 9052 9550  
E-Mail: [information@detini.gov.uk](mailto:information@detini.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.detini.gov.uk](http://www.detini.gov.uk)

Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism  
23 Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 631 3800  
Fax: (01) 661 1201  
E-Mail: [webmaster@dast.gov.ie](mailto:webmaster@dast.gov.ie)  
Website: [www.dast.gov.ie](http://www.dast.gov.ie)





North/South Ministerial Council  
An Chomhairle Aireachta  
Thuaidh/Theas

North/South Ministerial Council  
Joint Secretariat  
39 Abbey Street  
Armagh  
BT61 7EB

Tel 028 3751 8068 (048 from the South)

Fax 028 3751 1406 (048 from the South)

Email [info.nsmc@ofmdfmi.gov.uk](mailto:info.nsmc@ofmdfmi.gov.uk)

Website [www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org](http://www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org)

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