



North South Ministerial Council  
An Chomhairle Aireachta  
Thuaidh Theas

# North South Ministerial Council

2010 ANNUAL REPORT





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## INTRODUCTION

2010 saw a number of significant developments for the North South Ministerial Council (NSMC).

### NSMC MEETINGS

At its Plenary meeting of 5 July, members of the Northern Ireland Executive and the Government of Ireland had a comprehensive discussion on the fiscal challenges facing each jurisdiction and the measures being taken to consolidate budgets and prepare for economic recovery. Key ongoing co-operative actions were discussed and the potential for co-operation on joint capacity for research and development examined. Following from this discussion the European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, was invited to address the NSMC Trade and Business Development meeting and she did so in November 2010.

The NSMC Trade and Business Development meeting was one of twenty meetings involving ministers from the Northern Ireland Executive and the Irish Government held under the auspices of the North South Ministerial Council. The meetings covered the full range of issues and progress was made, or significant decisions taken, in a range of areas including the A5 (Aughnacloy to North West Gateway) and A8 (Belfast to Larne) roads projects; the provision of a new radiotherapy centre at Altnagelvin Hospital; the establishment of the innovative North-South Child Protection Hub website; a range of road safety measures; an all island animal health and welfare strategy and the removal of illegally dumped waste from sites in Northern Ireland (see the report for details of these and other issues).

The work of the North South Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland was also reviewed at NSMC meetings. The Council received reports from the Bodies on performance measured against targets set out in Business and Corporate Plans. Ministers agreed 2010 Business Plans and budgets including efficiency savings on the basis of guidelines agreed by the two Finance Departments. Ministers also reviewed progress on the preparation of the Bodies Corporate Plans 2011-13, Business Plans 2011 and their Annual Reports and

Accounts. The Joint Oireachtas and Assembly Public Accounts Committee Reviews of North South Bodies were published in June 2010.

### CROSS BORDER MOBILITY

We reported to the NSMC Plenary in July 2010, that we had identified a number of cross border mobility issues including taxation, access to welfare benefits and associated advisory services, cross-border transport services, mutual recognition of vocational qualifications, access to vocational training and cross-border postal services that needed attention. Since then the NSMC Joint Secretariat has been exploring these issues in greater depth with relevant departments and other bodies to establish if there are genuine barriers requiring administrative or legislative change or if the problem is a lack of information and communication. As part of this work, we were invited by the Irish representative on the European Network of Free Movement within the European Union to participate in a European Commission sponsored seminar on free movement of workers held in Dublin in November. At the seminar we outlined the efforts made by the NSMC to address the issues people in Northern Ireland and Ireland face when living and working in different jurisdictions.

### OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Joint Secretariat also continued its efforts to maintain good relations with local elected, business, church and civic representatives. We continued to dialogue with organisations relevant to our work such as cross border partnerships, Chambers of Commerce and local authorities in border regions. At the invitation of Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) we travelled to Brussels to participate in a seminar with European Commission and other officials engaged in the full range of areas of interest to local authorities. We engaged on a regular basis with the Centre for Cross Border Studies, the International Centre for Local and Regional Development and the IBEC/CBI Joint Business Council. We also presented on the work of the NSMC to groups including the Church of Ireland Men's Society and a group of mid-career professionals from new democracies and developing countries ranging from

Bangladesh to Vietnam (this visit was organised by the University of Birmingham as part of its Chevening Fellowship Programme on ‘Democracy, the Rule of Law and Security’).

As part of our cultural outreach we supported a range of events during 2010 including the John Hewitt Summer School and co-hosted with Armagh City and District Council the first ever assembly outside Dublin of Aosdána (the affiliation of creative artists in Ireland).

#### **NEW ACCOMMODATION**

After ten years in temporary accommodation the Joint Secretariat moved to new purpose built accommodation at 58 Upper English Street, Armagh in April 2010. The modern three storey building provides new offices and meeting facilities. The facility can accommodate the full range of NSMC Ministerial meetings. The building itself complements the existing architecture and heritage of the area. It also reflects the highest environmental and energy saving standards and has been awarded the top environmental rating in the Building Research Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) and has the highest office score in Northern Ireland and Ireland. In addition, in recognition of its accessibility to everyone, including people with disabilities, it has been awarded the coveted William Keown Access Capital Award. We would like to thank the staff of Armagh City and District Council for their continued assistance and support to the NSMC Joint Secretariat and for making our move to our new home so smooth. In addition, we would like to thank the Department of Finance and Personnel and the Office of Public Works for their assistance in providing the building with suitable art work. Art from the public collections in both jurisdictions is on display throughout the building, and Armagh City and District Council, in a venture with the Joint Secretariat, has commissioned a new piece of art for the building which will be in place in June 2011.

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of our colleague Caroline Rice-Hynds in April following a lengthy illness. Caroline joined the Joint Secretariat in 2001 and worked with us until 2009. As a tribute to her, staff from the Joint Secretariat organised a very

successful table quiz in September which raised over £2,000 for Action Cancer.

In conclusion, we wish to pay tribute to Tom Hanney who took up his new post as Ireland’s Ambassador to Belgium in July following a four year term as Joint Secretary (South). We thank him for all his work with the North South Ministerial Council and wish him every success in the future. We would also like to thank officials in the Northern Ireland Executive, Irish Government Departments, the North South Bodies, the Joint Secretariat and all our colleagues and friends for their valued help and co-operation throughout the year.

**Mary Bunting**  
Joint Secretary (North)

**Anne Barrington**  
Joint Secretary (South)

## CHAPTER ONE: NSMC Plenary Meeting



Ministers pictured at the tenth NSMC Plenary meeting 5 July 2010, Farmleigh House, Dublin

1.1 The NSMC met in Plenary format on the 5 July 2010 at Farmleigh House, Dublin. At the meeting the Irish Government delegation was led by the Taoiseach Brian Cowen TD, and the Northern Ireland Executive delegation was led by the First Minister, the Rt Hon Peter Robinson MLA, and the deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness MP, MLA. The Joint Communiqué issued after the meeting is available at [www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org](http://www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org)

1.2 There was a comprehensive discussion of the fiscal challenges facing each jurisdiction and the measures being taken to consolidate budgets and to prepare for economic recovery. The need to secure value for money across all public sector expenditure in the current difficult economic environment was recognised. Ministers welcomed ongoing discussions between the two Finance Ministers to identify potential cost savings through co-operation and sharing.

1.3 The Council also discussed co-operation to promote innovation which both underpins economic growth and creates employment. They discussed the introduction of innovation vouchers on an all island basis, funding provided through the Programme for Research in Third level Institutions, cancer research, increased cooperation in securing research funding under the EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) and the success of the US/Ireland/Northern Ireland Research and Development Partnership.

1.4 Ministers welcomed the potential for co-operation in promoting the joint capacity of both jurisdictions for Research and Development. They particularly encouraged the work of the NSMC Trade and Business Development sector, on innovation, research and development and on an all island ecosystem for innovation. It was agreed that the European Commissioner for Research Innovation and

## CHAPTER ONE: NSMC Plenary Meeting

Science, Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, would be invited to attend a future meeting of NSMC and subsequently Commissioner Geoghegan-Quinn attended the NSMC Trade and Business Development meeting on 12 November 2010.

1.5 The meeting discussed concerns relating to the banking and insurance sectors. Country of origin food labelling was also discussed. The importance of cross-border trade for the food industries was recognised and it was noted that relevant Ministers were discussing these issues.

### JOINT SECRETARIES' PROGRESS REPORT

1.6 At the Plenary meeting, Ministers took stock of developments in the various NSMC areas for co-operation on the basis of a progress report submitted by the Joint Secretaries. Key issues discussed included:

- the A5 (Aughnacloy to North West Gateway) and A8 (Belfast-Larne) where it reported that work was progressing well. These projects were on target to meet the next key milestones – Publication of Draft Orders – in late 2010/early 2011. The A1 road works to complete the Dublin Belfast link, were nearing completion at the time of the meeting. The new carriageway opened to traffic in July 2010;
- progress on the development of a new satellite radiotherapy centre at Altnagelvin Hospital. The Irish Government agreed, in principle, to provide a capital and revenue contribution. In December 2010 the Executive Finance Minister, in his statement to the Northern Ireland Assembly on the Executive's draft budget, indicated that this key project would be able to proceed;
- progress on a range of child protection issues including the launch of the innovative North-South Child Protection Hub which is believed to be the first of its kind globally;
- the reduction of blood alcohol levels in both jurisdictions to improve road safety;

- the mutual recognition of driver disqualifications between the UK and Ireland introduced on 28 January 2010 and a continuation of work on the longer term objective of the mutual recognition of penalty points;
- the agreement of an All Island Animal Health and Welfare Strategy;
- steps taken to ensure the removal of waste from sites at Slattinagh, Co Fermanagh and near Trillick, Co Tyrone;
- progress on the implementation of the EU PEACE III and INTERREG IVA programmes;
- an update on the Middletown Centre for Autism where the Board has been reconstituted for a further 3 year term; and
- progress on teacher education issues generally and on Irish-Medium Education (IME) in particular. It was reported that there was coordination and cooperation to tackle education under-achievement, school leadership and Irish-Medium Education (IME).

### ST ANDREWS AGREEMENT REVIEW

1.7 At this Plenary meeting, it was agreed that recommendations in a report prepared for the Review Group by an advisory panel of experts/advisors, would be forwarded for views to Ministers who have responsibility for the North South Bodies. It was also noted that a consultation was underway within Executive departments on the second and third terms of reference of the St Andrews Agreement Review. It was agreed to consider the outcome of the consultation that was underway in both jurisdictions at a future NSMC meeting.

### NORTH SOUTH CONSULTATIVE FORUM

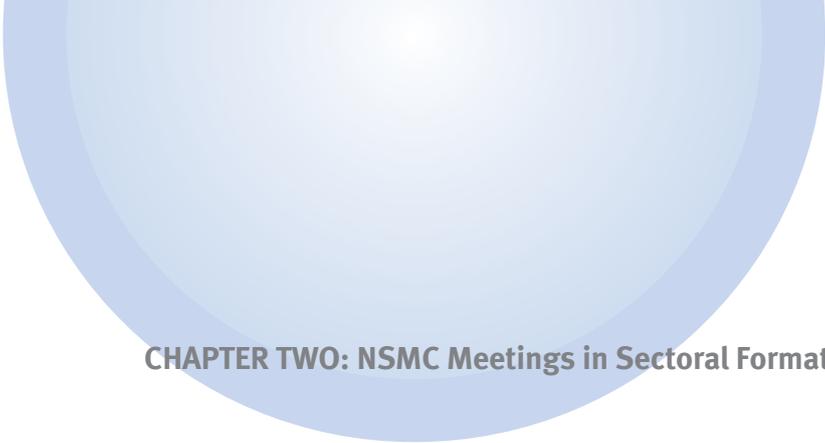
1.8 The Council noted that the Irish Government had facilitated a second consultative conference with the participation of social partners and other civil society groups from across the island.

## **NORTH SOUTH PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

1.9 The Council noted that a joint meeting of the North-South Parliamentary Forum Working Groups was held on 21 June 2010 to discuss a proposed joint Conference in early October. The Working Groups agreed that officials from both legislatures would continue to meet to refine aspects of the draft Conference programme and report back to their respective Working Groups with a view to finalising the conference programme. The Council noted that the establishment of a Forum is a matter for the Oireachtas and the Northern Ireland Assembly.

## **SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

1.10 A schedule of future meetings was considered and agreed.



## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

This chapter provides a summary of NSMC meetings in sectoral format in 2010. The Joint Communiqués from these meetings are available at [www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org](http://www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org)



## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

# Agriculture



Left to right: Brendan Smith TD, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment.

2.1.1 The NSMC met in Agriculture sectoral format in Hillsborough on 31 March and in Dublin on 13 October. Brendan Smith TD, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment attended both meetings. Pat Carey TD, Minister for Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs attended the October meeting.

### **ALL-ISLAND ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE STRATEGY**

2.1.2 An All-Island Animal Health and Welfare Strategy, designed to optimise the animal health status of the island through the alignment of policies to control animal disease was agreed. It was acknowledged that full co-operation on animal health issues had the potential to help reduce and prevent animal disease spread and facilitate trade. The Agriculture Departments agreed an Action Plan for 2010/11 for delivery of the key elements of the Strategy.

### **CO-OPERATION ON RESEARCH**

2.1.3 There was a presentation by officials on co-operation on research, which dealt with the current structures and funding streams for research in both jurisdictions and demonstrated the importance and benefits of ongoing co-operation. Ministers welcomed plans to continue this co-operation and engagement on areas of mutual interest and benefit, including access to international and EU funding programmes.

### **RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

2.1.4 There was also a presentation by officials on their approaches to their respective rural White Papers and the cross-border dimensions to this work.

2.1.5 Ministers formally endorsed the Rural Enabler Project, which addresses issues of sectarianism and racism in a rural context, and which had been approved funding of £2.7m under the PEACE III Programme.

2.1.6 They noted the high level of interest in the funding of €10m available from the rural development

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

element of the INTERREG IVA Programme to address rural disadvantage / deprivation through strategic cross-border actions within the eligible area of Northern Ireland, the border counties of Ireland and Western Scotland. Funding for the first of this Programme's Rural Development projects was approved by the Interreg IVA Steering Committee on 14 October 2010.

### PLANT HEALTH AND PESTICIDES

2.1.7 Ministers noted progress on the development of a work programme for a joint strategic approach to plant health and pesticides and looked forward to the work programme due to be presented to a NSMC Agriculture meeting in early 2011. They also noted ongoing co-operation in dealing with a number of outbreaks of *Phytophthora ramorum* in Japanese larch forests. At the commencement of the outbreaks, the relevant contingency plans were applied in both jurisdictions

and there was significant ongoing co-operation between two the agriculture departments on the issue.

### COMMON AGRICULTURE POLICY (CAP) & WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION (WTO)

2.1.8 The European dairy industry was in serious crisis during most of 2009 due to a substantial price drop for dairy products resulting in a significant reduction in prices paid to dairy farmers. In late 2009, the dairy market improved and returns in 2010 stabilised. Ministers welcomed the improvement in the dairy market situation in 2010 and the allocation of €300m by the EU to assist dairy farmers severely affected by the dairy crisis.

2.1.9 Ministers agreed to remain in close contact in the run-up to and during the negotiations on the review of the EU budget and on the future of CAP.

# Education



Left to right: Very Rev John Canon Kearney, Chair of Board of Governors, St Mark's High School, Warrenpoint, Michelle Corkey, Principal, Caitríona Ruane MLA, Minister for Education, Mary Coughlan TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Education and Skills, Eithne Lennon and Joe McCann, Vice Principals.

2.2.1 The NSMC met in Education sectoral format in Warrenpoint on 23 June. Mary Coughlan TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Education and Skills, Caitríona Ruane MLA, Minister for Education and Sir Reg Empey MLA, Minister for Employment and Learning attended this meeting.

## **EDUCATIONAL UNDER-ACHIEVEMENT**

2.2.2 Ministers received a presentation from practitioners and officials on initiatives aimed at tackling educational underachievement in disadvantaged communities.

2.2.3 They welcomed collaborative work by both departments on literacy and numeracy including work on Traveller education, the positive report of the joint Post-Primary Numeracy Conference and the all-island Children's Book Programme. They also welcomed planning for a conference in February 2011 with the working title 'Schools supporting children's literacy'.

2.2.4 The Council noted that officials would explore the potential to hold a 'Peer Learning Event on School

Attendance' with a focus on post primary schools. It was reported that the work on Traveller education including the conclusion of consultations with Travellers would come into the recommendations of the Task Force on Traveller Education.

2.2.5 The launch of pre-school, post-primary and special school "Toolkits for Diversity", to support teachers and schools in meeting the needs of newcomer pupils and their parents, was also noted.

## **SCHOOL YOUTH AND TEACHER EXCHANGES**

2.2.6 It was noted that a review of co-operation in the area of educational exchanges was included in the comprehensive Joint Study of North South Co-operation in Education, which is being taken forward by the two education departments.

2.2.7 The engagement between the two education departments and the IBEC/CBI Joint Business Council (JBC) on the development of an enterprise strand in the Dissolving Boundaries project was also noted. An

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evaluation of the first year of the pilot enterprise strand of the programme is planned.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

2.2.8 Ministers welcomed the re-constitution of the Teacher Qualifications Working Group and progress made in co-operation in teacher education issues generally and Irish Medium Education (IME) in particular.

2.2.9 They also welcomed additional measures to strengthen coordination and cooperation on School Leadership and Irish-Medium Education, including a commitment to share, where feasible, materials and resources in order to avoid duplication.

2.2.10 The Council welcomed the contribution of exchanges between the Inspectorates of both

departments of education to support the continuing development of inspection practice in both jurisdictions including the particular focus of the 2009/2010 exchanges on the themes of good practice in literacy and numeracy education and early childhood education.

### EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

2.2.11 The Council welcomed the continuing progress made by the Middletown Centre for Autism including, reappointment of the Board for a further three year term, the rolling out of further training packages across the island, the provision of advice and guidance to schools and ongoing research and information services.

2.2.12 Ministers also expressed their continued support for the efforts of the Centre and the two education departments to develop a multi annual plan for the future development of the Centre.

# Environment



Left to right: Conor Murphy MP, MLA, Minister for Regional Development, John Gormley TD, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment.

2.3.1 The NSMC met in Environment sectoral format on 5 March in Dublin and on 20 October in Armagh. John Gormley TD, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment attended both meetings. Margaret Richie MLA, Minister for Social Development attended the March meeting and Conor Murphy MP, MLA, Minister for Regional Development attended the October meeting.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING AND RESEARCH

2.3.2 Ministers welcomed a joint presentation by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) detailing proposals for a joint work programme. The work programme includes mechanisms to align work and/or co-fund essential research, data management and sharing, joint working by EPA and NIEA to enhance sharing of experience and knowledge and the development of an application for a joint EPA and NIEA headline project.

2.3.3 Ministers noted the joint development of a common set of environmental indicators by the EPA and the Northern Ireland Central Statistics and Research Branch on behalf of NIEA.

2.3.4 They also noted the EPA and NIEA are progressing joint applications for environmental research funding under the Seventh Framework (FP7), Interreg and LIFE+ programmes and welcomed the proposal by EPA and NIEA to develop a candidate research project to be advanced for EU funding during 2011.

## CROSS BORDER MOVEMENTS OF WASTE

2.3.5 The Council welcomed removal of waste from a site at Slattinagh, Co Fermanagh and progress made at a second site in Trillick, Co Tyrone. An evaluation of the work completed in these priority sites will inform the planning for the removal of waste from the remaining eighteen sites. Ministers welcomed the commitment of the two competent authorities to take appropriate legal

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

action against owners of sites and illegal operators, joint inspections during the year and that discussions were taking place to agree further joint enforcement activities identified by them.

### **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

2.3.6 Ministers discussed waste management strategies in each jurisdiction and the development of a resource management approach to waste management. The challenges and progress in both jurisdictions in progressing regulations to transpose the Waste Framework Directive required a significant increase in re-use and recycling for a range of waste streams including household and construction waste. The challenges posed for each administration in transposing the Directive were acknowledged.

2.3.7 The Council noted progress in developing a resource management approach to waste management which included the launch of the £5m Rethink Waste Capital Fund in Northern Ireland and the new waste policy statement which was at public consultation stage in Ireland.

2.3.8 The North South Market Development Steering Group which provided a co-operative approach to market development on both sides of the border made a presentation to the March meeting. It was noted that the Group would focus, in the first instance, on a work programme to include bulky waste such as furniture and electrical goods, quality protocols and case studies on recycling best practice. At the October meeting, Ministers welcomed progress on the group's work programme and noted the inclusion of Northern Ireland in the Plastic Arisings study.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE**

2.3.9 Ministers welcomed the publication of the River Basin Management Plans in both jurisdictions. They welcomed arrangements for the implementation of the Plans including the joint document "Working Together, Managing Our Shared Waters", that the North South Working Group on Water Quality would oversee co-ordinated implementation of the Plans and that the Group would continue to report progress to NSMC.

# Health



Left to right: Minister Michael McGimpsey MLA, Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety, Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mary Harney TD, Minister for Health and Children and Barry Andrews TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs.

2.4.1 The NSMC met in Health sectoral format in Armagh on 2 June and in Newry on 10 November. Michael McGimpsey MLA, Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety, Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and Barry Andrews TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs attended both meetings. Mary Harney TD, Minister for Health and Children attended the June meeting.

## CHILD PROTECTION

2.4.2 The Council welcomed the launch of the innovative North South Child Protection Hub (the Hub). This dedicated on-line child protection resource brings together research, policy and practice guidance, inspection reports, serious case reviews, court judgments, news articles and other printed and video publications in the field of child protection in both jurisdictions as well as published materials from other sources. The Hub will be used by policy makers, professional practitioners, researchers, and educators to share and improve knowledge, develop evidence-

based practice and ultimately assist the safeguarding of vulnerable children.

2.4.3 The launch of the Child Protection Communication Strategy and Communiqué aimed at promoting public awareness and assisting everyone in their duty to safeguard children was also welcomed. The Communiqué sets out ways in which co-operation will be taken forward to protect children, safeguard their welfare, exchange information and ideas, share good practice, develop protocols and ensure promotion of common public messages.

2.4.4 They Council welcomed progress on a range of child protection issues, including work to develop a joint protocol dealing with children in care and those on the child protection register who move between jurisdictions, where there were concerns.

2.4.5 Ministers also welcomed ongoing work in both jurisdictions to deal with the very complex and sensitive issue of historic child abuse and the collaborative work

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

within both jurisdictions on the management of sex offenders.

### **SUICIDE PREVENTION**

2.4.6 The Council discussed progress on the All-Island Action Plan on Suicide Prevention. They noted the potential impact of the current economic situation on suicide and agreed to the inclusion of a new action – Suicide and the Economic Situation – within the Action Plan. The establishment of the new media monitoring service in Northern Ireland and the completion of the all-island evaluation of Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training were also welcomed.

### **HEALTH PROMOTION**

2.4.7 Ministers discussed ongoing co-operation on health promotion, drug and alcohol misuse and men's health and physical activity and noted that the Drug Use in Ireland and Northern Ireland Prevalence Survey would contain for the first time information on mephedrone and other "legal highs".

### **PAEDIATRIC CONGENITAL CARDIAC SERVICES**

2.4.8 The meeting was also informed that the Cross Border Paediatric Congenital Cardiac Surgery and Interventional Cardiology in Northern Ireland had been working very well.

### **RADIOTHERAPY**

2.4.9 Ministers discussed the projected timescale for the development of a new satellite radiotherapy centre at Altnagelvin Hospital and that the Irish Government had agreed, in principle, to provide a capital and revenue contribution to this centre.

### **INTERREG IV**

2.4.10 Co-operation and Working Together (CAWT) made a presentation to the Council on progress in implementing the Interreg IVA Programme in Health and Social Care. Both health departments had been awarded €30 million through the Interreg IVA Programme for health and social care activity. CAWT was chosen by the health departments to implement and manage the delivery of a range of activities.

# Tourism



Left to right: Niall Gibbons, Chief Executive, Tourism Ireland, Arlene Foster MLA, Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure in Belfast at the unveiling of details for a major showcase for Northern Ireland tourism which was held in New York, September 2010.

2.5.1 Tourism Ireland Ltd is responsible for marketing overseas the island of Ireland as a tourist destination. Tourism Ireland has a Board of 12 members appointed by the NSMC. The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are Mr Hugh Friel and Ms Ciara Boyle respectively. The current Board members are listed in Annex Three. The Chief Executive of Tourism Ireland is Mr Niall Gibbons. Further details are available at [www.tourismireland.com](http://www.tourismireland.com)

2.5.2 The NSMC met in Tourism sectoral format in Armagh on 16 June. Mary Hanafin, TD, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport, Arlene Foster, MLA, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Investment and Junior Minister Gerry Kelly, MLA, attended the meeting.

2.5.3 The Council received updates from the Chairperson and Chief Executive on the work of Tourism Ireland. The Council also discussed the difficult global conditions which had a negative impact on tourism performance in 2010. They also discussed the volcanic eruption in Iceland and the impact this had had on air travel which was dramatic, unforeseen and unique.

2.5.4 Ministers also discussed Tourism Ireland's plans to return growth in visitor numbers by focussing on best prospect markets and spreading the value message in tactical marketing campaigns. Details of further activities planned for the year included in Board papers were reviewed. These activities included:

- a special marketing campaign (which ran over the summer and autumn months) promoting Dublin in the Great Britain market capitalizing on the accolade of "Europe's Friendliest City" awarded to Dublin.
- a £500,000 marketing campaign promoting Belfast as a City of Music highlighting Belfast's rich musical heritage. This was targeted at holidaymakers from Great Britain encouraging them to come and discover Belfast's emerging music and festival scene and to experience what the city has to offer.

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format



Mary Hannafin TD, Minister for Tourism Culture and Sport (third from left) in Dublin's Temple Bar with Tourism Ireland CEO Niall Gibbons (second from right) and German family Max, Wolfgang, Sophie and Katrin Kuerner, from Dresden, who were visiting Dublin for the first time during the launch of a €1 million Tourism Ireland Dublin Marketing Campaign.

- a campaign targeting up to 10 million of the Irish diaspora in the US (launched in the summer) with the tagline 'this is the year to come home', capitalising on the recent digitisation of the 1901 and 1911 censuses.
- Plans for a Titanic Exhibition in the Vanderbilt Hall, Grand Central Station, New York. The aim of the event was to raise awareness of Northern Ireland as a tourism destination as well as linking the Titanic to Belfast.(This took place in September 2010).

# Transport



Left to right: Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment, Noel Dempsey TD, Minister for Transport and Conor Murphy MP, MLA, Minister for Regional Development.

2.6.1 The NSMC met in Transport sectoral format in Newry on 3 March and in Armagh on 20 October. Noel Dempsey TD, Minister for Transport, Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment and Conor Murphy MP, MLA, Minister for Regional Development attended both meetings.

2.6.2 At the meetings, Ministers noted and welcomed the opportunity to discuss cross-border co-operation in relation to Strategic Transport Planning and Road Safety.

## ROADS

2.6.3 The Council noted that contractors had been appointed to both the A5 (North West Gateway to Aughnacloy) and A8 (Belfast to Larne) road projects and that further development was continuing including consultation with landowners and other interested parties. A payment schedule including the estimated cumulative Irish Government contribution on reaching each milestone in the project was agreed.

2.6.4 Ministers welcomed the opening of the new dual carriageway from Beech Hill to Cloghogue in July 2010

which completed the entire route between Belfast and Dublin to motorway/dual carriageway standard. Two service stations on the M1, at Castlebellingham, Co Louth and at Lusk, Co Dublin were opened in September 2010.

## ROAD SAFETY

2.6.5 Ministers discussed road safety issues on rural roads in border areas, the current position on road fatalities in each jurisdiction, cooperation on road safety strategies and enforcement actions in particular on cooperation in border areas including work with GAA, the Young Farmers Clubs of Ulster and other sporting organisations. The Road Safety Authority targetted the border areas with its programmes, 'A Call to Action' and 'Wrecked.ie' which was piloted in Donegal.

2.6.6 Ministers also noted the introduction and successful operation of the mutual recognition of driver disqualifications between the UK and Ireland. The mutual recognition of penalty points was a longer term objective and officials were planning ahead to establish what actions can be undertaken to move this forward.

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2.6.7 Ministers noted the arrangements in both jurisdictions for testing of compliance with technical/safety/vehicle regulations among HGV/Freight Operators. The level of existing corporation by the enforcement agencies and that plans for a series of cross-border enforcement regulations on buses and coaches were also noted.

### **BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION LIMITS**

2.6.8 Ministers discussed progress on reducing blood alcohol limits in both jurisdictions pending the outcome of the recommendations of the North Report and a coordinated approach to the introduction of new limits will continue to be explored. They noted that officials were meeting to discuss the sharing, where appropriate, of information on the procurement of new breath testing equipment.

### **SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT**

2.6.9 The Council noted the publication by the Department of Transport of the National Cycle Policy Framework as a follow up to the Smarter Travel policy and also that the Department for Regional Development, through its TravelWise initiative, actively promoted walking, cycling, public transport and car sharing to businesses, commuters and schools. They also noted that the Department for Regional Development was in the process of forming an Active Travel Forum.

2.6.10 Officials are continuing to pursue the sustainable transport agenda, sharing experience on issues such as the success of the all-island Bike Week 2010 which involved joint planning and linked events, such as the Cycling Grand Prix in both Belfast and Dublin.

2.6.11 Ministers welcomed the continued development and success of the car sharing scheme for the North West region, including the establishment of a website, the value of the initial promotional efforts and the growth of participants.

2.6.12 They also welcomed the ongoing co-operation and advice from the Electricity Supply Board to assist the Department of the Environment and the Department

for Regional Development in submitting a bid to the Department for Transport Plugged in Places initiative.

### **BRIDGES**

2.6.13 Bridges on the Tyrone Monaghan border at Knockaginny and Annaghroe were officially opened in October 2010.

2.6.14 It was reported that Louth County Council had submitted a report to the Department of Transport in relation to the proposed Narrow Water Bridge project and the report was being reviewed by the National Roads Authority on behalf of the Department. The question of funding construction work could be addressed following conclusion of the statutory planning processes.

### **FREIGHT FORUM**

2.6.15 The outcome of the initial meeting of a Freight Forum which was held in Dublin Castle on 29 January 2010 was reviewed. This meeting was attended by a wide range of stakeholders with an interest in promoting a sustainable freight sector.

2.6.16 Working groups have been established to examine the priority issues identified including being competitive in a sustainable manner, safer, compliant, eco-efficient, road freight transport, rail freight and other alternatives, international connectivity, and network management.

### **RAIL**

2.6.17 Ministers welcomed the approval under “the Invest to Save” project of improvements being applied to the reliability of the Enterprise service.

2.6.18 It was reported that the two railway companies continued to consider fare harmonisation on the Dublin Belfast rail service. The development of integrated ticketing systems across the island of Ireland remained a longer term objective.

2.6.19 The Northern Railway Corridor Development study was completed. The main focus of the report was on development potential along the Ballymena – Derry/Londonderry railway line.

# Aquaculture and Marine



Left to right: Conor Lenihan TD, Minister of State for Natural Resources, Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment.

2.7.1 The NSMC meets in Aquaculture and Marine sectoral format to take decisions on policies and actions to be implemented by the Foyle Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission (FCILC). The FCILC has a Board of 12 members appointed by the NSMC. The Board exercises the functions of the Body in relation to the Foyle and Carlingford areas through the Loughs Agency.

2.7.2 The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Board are Mr Tarlach O Crosain and Ms Jacqui McConville respectively. The current Board members are listed in Annex Three. The Chief Executive of the Loughs Agency is Mr Derick Anderson. Further details are available at [www.loughs-agency.org](http://www.loughs-agency.org).

2.7.3 NSMC Aquaculture and Marine meetings took place in Hillsborough on 31 March and in Armagh on 9 September. Conor Lenihan TD, Minister of State for Natural Resources, Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment attended the March meeting. Eamon Ryan TD, Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources,

Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and Junior Minister Robin Newton MLA attended the September meeting.

2.7.4 The Council received progress reports from the Chairperson and Chief Executive on the work of the Loughs Agency. Key developments discussed included:

- progress with the implementation of the Agency's Marine Tourism Development Strategy through the roll out of projects supported by INTERREG IV, the successful engagement with the Northern Ireland Tourist Board, the initiation of the Riverwatch Phase 3 Project and the Riverwatch outreach environmental science programme with schools;
- the effectiveness of the Agency's response to pollution incidents on the Foyle system and the positive impact of the regulation of the Lough Foyle oyster fishery including improving the catches in the 2009-2010 season;

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

- the developing partnership on marine tourism between the Loughs Agency, Northern Ireland Tourist Board and Louth County Council;
- the practical use of the monitoring of fish species diversity in Lough Foyle and how it is applied in management decisions by the Loughs Agency in the Foyle Catchment. Ministers noted that the Agency's new monitoring vessel, the MMV Ostrea, was now operational and has facilitated the surveying of the seed mussel areas in Carlingford Lough and the native oyster fishery in Lough Foyle. Ministers noted the practical application of the Catchment Status Reports to ensure continued conservation and protection of freshwater fisheries and aquatic resources of the Foyle and Carlingford systems; and
- approval of four sets of regulations required for the conservation and protection of the fisheries in the Foyle and Carlingford areas:
  - The Foyle Area and Carlingford Area (Angling) (Amendment) Regulations 2010;
  - The Foyle Area (Licensing of Oyster Fishing) (Amendment) Regulations 2010;
  - The Foyle Area (Licensing of Oyster Fishing) (Amendment) Regulations 2010; and
  - The Foyle Area (Control of Fishing) Regulations 2010.

# Food Safety



Michael McGimpsey MLA, Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety at a **safefood** promotion.

2.8.1 The NSMC meets on Food Safety matters to take decisions on policies and actions to be implemented by the Food Safety Promotion Board (FSPB). FSPB operates under the brand identifier “**safefood**”. It has an Advisory Board of 12 members, appointed by the NSMC, principally charged with promoting food safety and supporting scientific co-operation between institutions working in that field. Mr John Dardis and Mr Campbell Tweedie are Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Board respectively. The current Board members are listed in Annex Three. The Chief Executive of **safefood** is Mr Martin Higgins. Further details are available at [www.safefood.eu](http://www.safefood.eu).

2.8.2 The NSMC met in the Food Safety sectoral format in Armagh on 2 June and in Newry on 10 November. Mary Harney TD, Minister for Health and Children, Michael McGimpsey MLA, Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety, Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and Barry Andrews TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs attended the June meeting.

2.8.3 The Council received progress reports from the Chairperson and Chief Executive on the work of the Food Safety Promotion Board. Key developments discussed included:

- the range of research activities that were being taken forward by **safefood** including the cross-sectional population study on dietary salt intake, the qualitative research targeting the information needs of vulnerable and hard to reach groups in relation to food safety and that a number of new attitudinal research projects were under way;
- the continuing success of **safefood's** promotional activities and safefood's sponsorship of an event in Belfast which focussed on tackling obesity in young people. Ministers welcomed these activities and the development of all-island knowledge networks of food safety professionals;

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

- the appointment of **safefood's** Scientific Advisory Committee. The appointments of Dr Ken Baird and Professor Charles Daly as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively were approved; and
- work carried out by **safefood** in support of its legislative remit on the surveillance of foodborne diseases and the work of the Scientific Advisory Committee in identifying a harmonised approach to this surveillance.

# Inland Waterways



Left to right: Pat Carey TD, Minister for Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs, Caitríona Ruane MLA, Minister for Education and Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure.

2.9.1 Waterways Ireland is responsible for the management, maintenance, development and restoration of the inland navigable waterway systems throughout the island, principally for recreational purposes. It is currently responsible for the following waterways: Barrow Navigation, Erne System, Grand Canal, Lower Bann Navigation, Royal Canal, Shannon-erne Waterway and Shannon Navigation amounting to approximately 1,000km of navigable waterways. It is also responsible for the restoration of the section of the Ulster Canal between Clones and Upper Lough Erne and, following restoration, for its management, maintenance and development. The Chief Executive of Waterways Ireland is Mr John Martin. Further details are available at [www.waterwaysireland.org](http://www.waterwaysireland.org)

2.9.2 The NSMC met in Inland Waterways sectoral format in Armagh on 26 May and 3 November. Pat Carey TD, Minister for Community, Equality and Gaeltacht, Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure and Caitríona Ruane MLA, Minister for Education attended both meetings.

2.9.3 The Council received progress reports from the Chief Executive on the work of Waterways Ireland. Key developments discussed included:

- between January and October 2010, Waterways had provided an additional 490 metres of additional moorings on the waterways. The maintenance programme continued on all the waterways in particular the tackling of extreme weed growth in the Erne and the canals;
- Waterways Ireland won the coveted O2 Ability Awards 2010 for “Environmental Accessibility” and also achieved the status of “Ability Company” in the categories “Environmental Accessibility” and “Customer Service”;
- the continuation of Waterways Ireland’s marketing activities with the provision of new publications to promote and support the use of the waterways and the sponsoring of key events on the waterways in 2010. The Lakelands and Inland Waterways initiative in relation to

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

- a marketing campaign for the Erne Shannon system continued in this period and the Waterways Ireland Visitor Centre was re-opened on 20 July 2010;
- the participation of Waterways Ireland along with 17 partners from 11 EU countries, Norway and Serbia, in an EU INTERREG IVC (Transnational Programme) project entitled 'Waterways Forward' (formerly Inland Waterways of Europe). As part of the 3 year project Waterways Ireland will host a meeting of the 17 partner representatives in late 2011;
  - progress on the restoration of the Clones to Upper Lough Erne section of the Ulster Canal. Work on the Strategic Environmental Assessment was completed by mid 2010 and work on the Environmental Impact Assessment in late 2010. A preferred route from a technical/engineering point of view was identified;
  - progress on the development of the Shannon Erne Waterway and the developments that have taken place since it reopened including the reconstruction of the original Ballinamore/Ballyconnell canal as the Shannon Erne Waterway;
  - the future potential of the waterways including economic benefits to the local community, recreation industry, tourism industry and the economy;
  - the completion of the restoration of the Royal Canal at the end of September reconnecting it to the Shannon; and
  - agreement of a number of property disposals in the context of a range of development proposals on the waterways.

# Language



Left to right: Caitríona Ruane MLA, Minister for Education, Pat Carey TD, Minister for Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs and Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure outside the new offices of the North South Ministerial Council Joint Secretariat.

2.10.1 The Language Body comprises two separate agencies – The Irish Language Agency/Foras na Gaeilge, and the Ulster-Scots Agency/Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch. The Agencies promote the Irish language and Ulster Scots language and culture, respectively. The Board of the Language Body is appointed by the NSMC. The Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge is Mr Liam Ó Maoilmhichíl. The Chairperson of Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch was Mr. John Hunter until 31st December 2010. Mr Ó Maoilmhichíl and Mr Hunter are joint Chairpersons of the Language Body.

2.10.2 There are 15 other members on the Board Foras na Gaeilge and 7 other members on the Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch. These are listed in Annex Three. Mr Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh is the Chief Executive of Foras na Gaeilge and Ms Hazel Campbell is the Interim Chief Executive of Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch. Further details are available at [www.forasnagaeilge.ie](http://www.forasnagaeilge.ie) and [www.ulsterscotsagency.com](http://www.ulsterscotsagency.com)

2.10.3 The NSMC met in Language sectoral format on 26 May and 3 November in Armagh. Pat Carey TD,

Minister for Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs, Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure and Caitríona Ruane MLA, Minister for Education attended both meetings.

2.10.4 The Council Ministers received progress reports at these meetings from the Chairpersons and CEOs of both agencies. Key developments discussed included:

- the ongoing collaboration between Foras na Gaeilge and the Ulster-Scots Agency including an information leaflet on the Language Body, the continuation of the lecture series 'Aspects of our Shared Heritage', including a new lecture on the history of the languages;
- the introduction by Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch of a new Community Workers Scheme to improve capacity in community groups and appointment of administrative workers on a part-time basis in 8 community and voluntary organisations;

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

- the opening of a new office by Foras na Gaeilge in Gaoth Dobhair and publication of a new Irish language weekly newspaper, Gaelscéal;
- the recommendations of the review of the core-funded organisations undertaken by the Ulster-Scots Agency. The Council asked the Agency to consider how best to implement the recommendations to ensure value for money and quality; and
- the review of the core-funded organisations undertaken by Foras na Gaeilge. The Council agreed that, in the context of satisfactory progress on implementation of recommendations being achieved, Foras na Gaeilge could continue to provide interim funding to existing funded organisations to end May 2011.

# Special EU Programmes



Left to right: Sammy Wilson MP, MLA, Minister of Finance and Personnel, Margaret Ritchie MLA, Minister for Social Development and Brian Lenihan TD, Minister for Finance.

2.11.1 The mission of the SEUPB is to effectively manage and implement funding programmes on behalf of the two Governments and the European Union aimed at delivering social and economic improvements to the people in Northern Ireland and Ireland through cross border, transnational and inter-regional cooperation. The Chief Executive of the SEUPB is Mr Pat Colgan. Further details are available at [www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu)

2.11.2 The NSMC met in Special European Programmes sectoral format on 17 February in Dublin. Brian Lenihan TD, Minister for Finance, Sammy Wilson MP, MLA, Minister for Finance and Personnel and Margaret Ritchie MLA, Minister for Social Development, attended this meeting.

2.11.3 At the meeting the Council received a progress report from the Chief Executive on the activities of the Special EU Programmes Body. Key developments discussed included:

- the closure of the PEACE II and INTERREG IIIA Programmes;
- progress on the implementation of the PEACE III and INTERREG IVA Programmes in terms of the assessment of applications and approval of projects. At the end of 2010 SEUPB approved 126 projects worth €207m under the PEACE III Programme and expenditure was €57m. They also approved 49 projects worth €153m under the INTERREG IVA Programme and expenditure was €38.15m;
- assisting projects in the North West (PEACE III and INTERREG IVA); assisting victims and survivors (PEACE III); encouraging participation by underrepresented groups including the Protestant community (PEACE III); and involving Scotland (INTERREG IVA);
- concerns raised by the five Local Authority Based Groups regarding the approval of their Multi-Annual Plans (MAPs) for INTERREG IVA were being addressed;

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

- the work of the SEUPB continued to facilitate North South participation in the INTERREG IV transnational and interregional programmes. In 2010 SEUPB secured 44 project partners across the relevant programmes; and
- SEUPB continued to communicate the positive impacts of the EU Programmes with high profile events, many with Ministerial involvement. These included a major PEACE III Conference in Belfast and support for East Border Region to host the Association of European Border Regions Annual Conference in Dundalk and Newry in October 2010.

# Trade and Business Development



Left to right: Danny Kennedy MLA, Minister for Employment and Learning, Arlene Foster MLA, Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, European Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, Batt O’Keeffe TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Innovation and Conor Murphy MP, MLA, Minister for Regional Development.

2.12.1 The Trade and Business Development Body known as InterTradelreland was established to exchange information and co-ordinate work on trade, business development and related matters, in areas where the two administrations specifically agree it would be in their mutual interest. InterTradelreland has a Board of 12 members appointed by the NSMC. The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are Dr David Dobbin and Mr John Fitzgerald respectively. The current Board members are listed in Annex Three. The Chief Executive of Tourism Ireland is Mr Liam Nellis. Further details are available at [www.intertradeireland.com](http://www.intertradeireland.com)

2.12.2 The NSMC met in Trade and Business Development sectoral format in Armagh on 30 June and 12 November. Batt O’Keeffe TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Innovation, Arlene Foster MLA, Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and Conor Murphy MP, MLA, Minister for Regional Development attended both meetings. Danny Kennedy MLA, Minister for Employment and Learning also attended the November meeting for a discussion on Co-operation on Innovation.

2.12.3 At the meetings Ministers received progress reports from the Chairperson and Chief Executive on the activities of InterTradelreland (ITI). These included:

- information on InterTradelreland’s work with the business community to help provide advice and access to cross-border trade and innovation programmes to assist recovery. In the period January 2010 to June 2010, 1370 companies accessed InterTradelreland Cross-border Business Information and Advice services while 151 companies initiated InterTradelreland Trade or Innovation projects. InterTradelreland’s average Return on Investment across its portfolio of Trade and Innovation Programmes was on target for 2010 at 8:1 and through InterTradelreland’s activities, 94 new jobs had been reported in 2010 by companies participating in its programmes;
- the InterTradelreland Quarterly Business Monitor which provides useful information on the impact economic developments on the private sector,

## CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

the shape of the recovery and competitiveness issues; and

- InterTradelreland's work to promote co-operation on innovation including collaborative work with Enterprise Ireland and Invest NI and the successful InterTradelreland 2010 Innovation Conference.

### CO-OPERATION ON INNOVATION

2.12.4 European Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn attended the Trade and Business Development sectoral meeting in November. This was the first time an European Commissioner had attended an NSMC meeting. The Commissioner offered her full support and the assistance of her office to those wishing to meet the challenges and avail of the opportunities which the Innovation Union initiative presented. Ministers welcomed and thanked Commissioner Geoghegan-Quinn for her attendance at the meeting and looked forward to her continuing support on the Innovation agenda.

2.12.5 At the meeting a paper prepared by InterTradelreland on Co-operation and Innovation was presented to Ministers and the Commissioner.

2.12.6 Ministers welcomed the continued success and development of the US-Ireland Research and Development Partnership and cross-border collaborative projects through the EU FP7 Framework Programme. They noted that there have now been 7 successful partnership projects through the US-Ireland Research and Development Partnership which have a combined value of €12.5m/£15m and 33 successful cross-border collaborative projects through the FP7 programme. The higher success rate of cross-border collaborative projects was noted and the Council discussed how to increase collaboration to capitalise on the opportunities provided by the EU Framework Programme. It was noted that InterTradelreland will dedicate resources specifically to increase collaborative participation and to develop an early alert system for potential FP7 proposals working closely with Invest NI, Ireland's National Support Network for FP7, business and academia.

## ANNEX ONE: List of NSMC Meetings in 2010

The following table shows the NSMC meetings which were held during 2010:

NSMC Meeting	Date	Location
Plenary	5 July	Dublin
Agriculture	31 March	Hillsborough
	13 October	Dublin
Education	23 June	Warrenpoint
Environment	5 March	Dublin
	20 October	Armagh
Health and Food Safety	2 June	Armagh
	10 November	Newry
Tourism	16 June	Armagh
Transport	3 March	Newry
	20 October	Armagh
Aquaculture & Marine	31 March	Hillsborough
	9 September	Armagh
Inland Waterways	26 May	Armagh
	3 November	Armagh
Language	26 May	Armagh
	3 November	Armagh
Special EU Programmes	17 February	Dublin
Trade & Business Development	30 June	Armagh
	12 November	Armagh

## ANNEX TWO: North South Ministerial Council Joint Secretariat

The North South Ministerial Council (NSMC) is supported by a standing Joint Secretariat staffed by members of the Northern Ireland Civil Service and the Irish Civil Service. The Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) is the parent Department of the Northern Ireland civil servants and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) is the parent Department of the Irish civil servants.

Mary Bunting is the Joint Secretary (North) and Anne Barrington is the Joint Secretary (South). Anne replaced Tom Hanney in July 2010. The Deputy Joint Secretaries are Pat Donaghy (North) and Bill Nolan (South).

### FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Joint Secretariat include:

- arranging the schedule of Council meetings in different formats;
- securing prior political 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;
- liaising, where appropriate, through the designated Department or Office in either jurisdiction, with the Secretariat of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference, 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.

### FUNDING

Staff costs are met by OFMDFM and DFA. All other costs associated with the Joint Secretariat and the NSMC are shared between the two administrations. The cost of running the Joint Secretariat in 2010 amounted to **£2,509,457/€2,927,383** \*.

\* includes £818,884/€955,145 in respect of capital fit out costs associated with new accommodation.

## ANNEX THREE: North South Bodies' Board Members

### FOOD SAFETY PROMOTION BOARD ADVISORY BOARD

John Dardis (Chairperson)  
Campbell Tweedie (Vice Chairperson)  
Ken Baird  
Lynn Ní Bhaoigheallain  
Joe Byrne  
Brian Cunningham  
Aoife Healy  
Susan Heraghty  
Neven Maguire  
Seamus Sheridan  
Con Traas  
Jane Wells

### NORTH SOUTH LANGUAGE BODY FORAS NA GAELIGE

Liam Ó Maoilmhichíl  
(Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge/Joint Chairperson of  
An Foras Teanga)  
Eoghan Mac Cormaic (Vice Chairperson)  
Áine Andrews  
Lucilita Breathnach  
Seanna Breathnach  
Adelaide Nic Cárthaigh  
Peter Gallagher  
Máiréad Nic Giolla Mhichíl  
Norman Henry (Resigned August 2010)  
Liam Kennedy  
Éamonn Kinch  
Marcus Mac Ruairi  
Dónal Ó Bearra  
Pádhraic Ó Biadha  
Diarmuid Ó Murchú  
Caoilfhionn Nic Pháidín

### THA BOORD O ULSTÈR SCOTCH

John Hunter  
(Chairperson of Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch/Joint  
Chairperson of North South Language Body. Resigned  
December 2010)  
Ian Adamson  
Tony Crooks  
Angela Graham  
William Humphrey (Resigned June 2010)  
Hilary Singleton (Appointed June 2010)  
William Leathem  
Jacqui Reed  
Michael McLoone (Appointed May 2010)

### THE FOYLE, CARLINGFORD AND IRISH LIGHTS CCMMISSION

Tarlach O Crosain (Chairperson)  
Jacqui McConville (Vice Chairperson)  
Enda Bonner  
Brendan Byrne  
John Byrne  
Denis Haughey  
Alan McCulla  
Joe Miller  
John Mulcahy  
Winston Patterson  
Thomas Sloan  
Jim Wilson

## ANNEX THREE: North South Bodies' Board Members

### THE TRADE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BODY

David Dobbin (Chairperson)

John Fitzgerald (Vice Chairperson)

Brendan Butler

Ray Doherty

Sean Gallagher

Jack Gilmour

Hugh Logue

Padraig MacLochlainn

Patricia McKeown

Dr Gerard O'Hare

Vincent Parker

Tom Scott

### TOURISM IRELAND LIMITED

Hugh Friel (Chairperson)

Ciara Boyle (Vice Chairperson)

Brian Ambrose

Howard Hastings

David Lyle

Robert Manson

Mandy Martin

Bill McGinnis

Moira McNamara

John Power

Shaun Quinn

Ann Riordan