Inny

Innin frae Jint Secretars

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INTRODUCTION BY JOINT SECRETARIES
INNIN

We ar blythe giean a din, at 2008 wis a yeir o farder onset for the North-South Council o Ministers.

7 Februar 2008 thar wis a successfu NSCM Plenarie forgather at the Dundalk Institute o Technologie, at Ministers haen a collogue anent the wark o the Council at. Amang the practicl maiters brocht on at the forgather wis Bairn Fen, whaur Ministers greed for tae tak fore wark ettlet at the enhance o wirkin thegither anent this sensitive an importan maiter.

At the NSCM forgatherings thrue the yeir, Ministers gaed on wi the owreesee o the wark o the North South Implement Curns an Tourism Ireland. Ministers taen in progress dins fraw Preses an Heid Executives, leikut owre ettles an tairgets agin business ploys, an leikut owre futur wark frae the Curns. The focus o Ministerial tent haes been makkin siccar at the balth stewartries gets heidmaist valiyee for siller frae the wark o the Curns.

 Ministers gaed on wi the avance o wark o lyke uiss in the NSCM Airts for Cooperate for tae deliver tangible advantages. Amang the maiters gaed on wi wis the upgrade o the A5 (Aughnacloy tae the Norwast) an A8 (Belfast – Larne) raas, jint ettles at the remuive o furth-o-the-laa dumpit waste frae steids in Norlin Airlan, the re-openin o a pairt o the Ulster Canal, cooperate anent gettan at leir unnerachievement, the oncum o a strategie anent beece halth, an suicide fen.

The new wabsteid www.borderpeople.info sat furth frae Ministers October 2007 born a pairticular gree. The wabsteid gies wittins for thaim ettlet at bidan, wirkan or studyan in the tither stewartrie, an in the yeir traffic tae the wabsteid grawed tae 10,000 hits the mond. The Secretariat begoud wark forby anent the niffer o pensions on athort-mear founs, an on athort-mear bankin maiters. Gin the yeir end, this wis gettan positive outcums.

The Secretariat helt up a fruitfu collogue wi curns, as answers tae the wark o the NSCM, the lyke o athort-mear pairtneries, commontie an voluntar curns, Chaumbers o Commerce an local owreances in the Mairches.

Foundit in Armagh, the Secretariat hauds up guid relations wi hamelie waled, business, kirk an cevic representars. In the yeir, Armagh Ceetie an District Council wun the tender for tae big new accommodation for the Secretariat. We ar leukan fore tae ongan guid pairtnerie wirkin wi the Council in the yeir afore.

Mary Bunting
Jint Secretar (North)

Tom Hanney
Jint Secretar (South)
CHAPTER AE

OWREVIEW O HEID ONCUMS
Chapter Ae: Overview of Heid Oncums

BACKGROUND

1.1 This din haps the wark o the North-South Council o Ministers (NSCM) in the tyme Januar til December 2008. In the yeir thar wis twal forgaithers o the NSCM – ane in Plenarie format an eleiven in sector format.

1.2 The NSCM forgaithers as wis helt in 2008 kythes ablo:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NSCM Forgaither</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pairt</th>
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<tr>
<td>Plenarie</td>
<td>7 Februar</td>
<td>Dundalk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultur</td>
<td>30 Apryle</td>
<td>Inniskillin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>21 Mey</td>
<td>Mullaghbawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aquacultur an Marine</td>
<td>21 Mey</td>
<td>Dublin</td>
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<td>Halth &amp; Meat Saultie</td>
<td>28 Mey</td>
<td>Belfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leir</td>
<td>28 Mey</td>
<td>Downpatrick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>29 Mey</td>
<td>Inniskillin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade &amp; Business Oncum</td>
<td>29 Mey</td>
<td>Inniskillin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquacultur an Marine</td>
<td>26 Juin</td>
<td>Belfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inlan Watterweys</td>
<td>4 July</td>
<td>Limavady</td>
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<tr>
<td>Langage</td>
<td>4 July</td>
<td>Limavady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leir</td>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Dublin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1.3 At thir forgaithers, Ministers taen importan deceesions anent the wark o the North South Implement Curns an Tourism Ireland Limited (the Curns) an Airts for Cooperate. Fou details o whit wis sat kwik owre, comprendan maiters anent corporate governance in the Curns an progress in the wark programs in the Airts for Cooperate kythes in the chaiters 2 an 3.

NSCM JINT SECRETARIAT NEW ACCOMMODATION PROJECT

1.4 Guid progress is efter a-makkan in gettan new, ettle-biggit, accommodation for the NSCM Jint Secretariat in Armagh. Efer a public procure kempin, the tender for tae develop the new accommodation wis gien Armagh City an District Council, at will mak a lease on the biggin tae the NSCM jint Secretariat. The new accommodation, at sud be open in 2010, will gie biggins an facilities for tae be the host tae NSCM forgaithers. The design gaes wi the heichmaist environment an energie hainins staundarts possible, an will be a shawpiece for Armagh in the uiss o new technologies in thir airts. Hit will be lyke an importan catalyst tae the regenerate o a bade-back pairt o the Ceetie.

MUIVEMENT MAITERS

1.5 The Athort-mear Muivement Wabsteid www.borderpeople.info at wis sat furth frae Ministers in October 2007 gaes on grawan geyn quack. Efer a successfu merchatin campaign in the simmer, the wabsteid is bringan in aroun 10,000 visitars the mond. The wabsteid gies easie open public service wittins for thaim as bes for muivean athort the mear for the bide, wark, an study.

1.6 Twa wirkan curns wis sat up frae the NSCM – the tane for tae leuk owre options for gaean fore wi the niffer o pension richts on athort-mear founs, an the tither for tae pruiw athort-mear bankin maiters, comprehendan transaction chairges.

1.7 Anent bankin, a nummer banks haes greed tae gie wittins anent the cost o teipical athort-mear aefauld bankin transactions. Thir wittins is efter a-settan furth in a compare table on www.borderpeople.info, sae giean, for the first tyme, a degree transparencie anent thae costs.

1.8 Anent pensions, takkan tent tae the sindert pension arryngements athort the public sectors in the baith stewartries, the wirkan curn decid tae think on, bean a pairticular case study, the abilitie for niffer o dominies pensions syne this wis efter a-bringan up athin NSCM.

1.9 The baith wirkan curns will gie a din back tae the NSCM in 2009.

OUTREACH EVENTS

1.10 An importan pairt o the wark o the NSCM Jint Secretariat is the effective owrepit o the daeins o the NSCM. In the yeir, the Secretariat gien repones tae speirs for briefins frae a braid reinge curns wi an interest, comprendan: students frae the Vairsitie Notre Dame; Chevening Fellaes; heid officials representan the Croatian Gовernment; students frae the American Young Ambassadors Program; Palestine students sponsort wi the Glencree Centre for Peace an Reconciliation; the Societé Français des Études Irlandaises; the Norlin Airlan Council for Voluntar Action, an Owen Patterson, Shaddae Secretar o State for Norlin Airlan.

1.11 The Secretariat helt up collogues wi curns haean an inpit tae cooperate in the Mairches comprehendan commontie curns, athort-mear pairtneries an business heid anes an officials frae the Chaumbers o Commerce an local owreances in the Newrie an Dundalk an the Norwast.
1.12 A heidin o the yeir comprehendit a daein in Armagh in Mey, aa sat for the Earse an Ulster-Scots cultur, haean in it a performance frae the Athort-mear Orchestra o Airlan an the Reverend Gary Hastings an Brian Mullen. The daei, at haen for its host the NSCM Secretariat alang wi Foras na Gaeilge an the Ulster Scots Agentrie, brocht in owre 200 fowk comprehendan Executive Ministers Conor Murphy, MP, MLA an Jeffrey Donaldson, MP, MLA.

Taen at the event in Mey 2008 anent the upbig o Earse an Ulster Scots cultur is, frae the ker, Tom Hanney, Jint Secretar, Jeffrey Donaldson, MP, MLA, Conor Murphy, MP, MLA an Mary Bunting, Jint Secretar
CHAPTER TWA

NSCM PLENARIE FORGAITHER

Aquaculture and Marine Matters
2.1 The NSCM forgaithert in Plenarie format at the Dundalk Institute o Technologie on 7t Februar. The Airis Govrenment delegation wis led frae the Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern TD, at wis Preses o the forgaither. The Norlin Airlan Executive delegation wis heidit frae the First Minister, The Rt Hon Dr Ian Paisley MP, MLA an First Minister depute, Martin McGuinness MP, MLA.

2.2 At the forgaither the Council:
- gaed wi the oncum made, comprehendan greeance anent a management structur for tae tak fore the deceesions anent the A5 (Norwast Entry tae Aughnacloy) an A8 (Belfast tae Larne) raa projects an gien a walcum tae oncum gin thenou on the Nairrae Watter Brig propone;
- gien a walcum tae greeance anent the modalities for the foretakkin o the re-openin o a pairt o the Ulster Canal atween Clones an Heicher Lough Erne;
- leukit fore tae the ear pruiw o options for the futur oncum o the Dublin/Belfast Enterprise rail service particular anent heicher service nummers an nether trael tymes;
- greed at cooperate anent Raa Sauftie wil gae on bean a heich ettle comprehendan the ken o dryver disqualification an penaltie pynts an raa sauftie in the Mairches;
- greed at the tourism sector is haean a muckle inpit tae economic grawth an employ, an gien a walcum tae Tourism Irelands sweir tairgets o uppittan tourism incum grawth o atween 6.6-7.5% the yeir, visitar grawth o atween 4.2-5.1% the yeir, an forderable grawth o 14.0 tae 17.2% owre the 3 yeir cumman;
- leukit fore tae dins frae the Wirkan Curns sat up at the NSCM forgaither in Institutional format in October 2007 anent the niffer o pensions on athort-mear founs an on athort-mear bankin maiters as bes o strecht relevance tae mair athort-mear muivement;
- gien a walcum tae the inlet for tae hae a colleague anent Bairn Fen maiters athin the NSCM, an for
tae think on the wey effective bairn fen meisurs cud be a-bringan on wi mair wirkin thegither an cooperatin;

- taen tent o an gien a walcum tae athort-mear cooperate thenou anent on Bairn Fen bringan in Depairtments, agentries an policin curns;
- speirt at the Depairtment Halth, Social Services an Public Saufftie an the Office o the Minister for Bairns for tae set up a co-preses an athort-mear curn o officials frae ansuerable depairtments for tae bring on mair cooperate anent Bairn Fen comprehendan:
  
  a. ear progress anent an aa-islan Bairn Fen awaur campaign;
  
  b. the identifeein o ither medium/lang term meisurs for tae impruive Bairn Fen, comprehendan a pruiw o an aa-islan approach tae the bairn fen, wi pairticular focus tae the vettin o a niffer o wittins;
  
  c. onie airts for cooperate on bairns services cumman out frae the North South Feasibilitie Study anent halth an social services; an tae pit out a din anent progress tae the neist NSCM Plenarie forgaither.

- taen tent o the progress made til thenou wi the St Andreas Greeance Owreleuk Curn, an takkan fore the Owreleuk an the ettle at bringan fore an end din tae a NSCM Plenarie forgaither later in 2008;

- taen tent o the Airis Govrenments speirin wi thair social pairwise anent the North South Speirin Forum an taen tent o the position at wis put out afore anent the owreleuk o the Ceevic Forum in Norlin Airlan forby; an

- taen tent o the ongan collogue atween the Houses o the Oireachtas an the Norlin Airlan Assemblie anent the North South Parliamentar Forum an greed tae hauld this maiter a-leukan owre.
CHAPTER THREE

NSCM FORGATHERS IN SECTOR FORMAT
Forgaither Date Pairt

### 3.1.1
The Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent at this forgaither frae Michelle Gildernew, MP, MLA, Minister o Agricultur an Kintra Oncum an Arlene Foster, MLA, Minister o the Environment. The Airis Government haen represent frae Mary Coughlan, TD, Minister for Agricultur, Fisheries an Meat an Éamon Ó Cuív, TD, Minister for Commontie, Kintra an Gaeltacht Daeins.

### 3.1.2
At the forgaither, Ministers taen tent o progress o the scroll o the Aa-Islan Beece Halth an Walfaur Strategie an ploys for a futur athort-mear event wi heid agricultur stakehauuldars frae the baith stewartries for tae talk owre the aa-islan strategic approach. Anent plant halth an pesticides, the Council kent the need for the oncum o a mair strategic approach tae athort-mear cooperate an greed the upset o a Steeran Curn for tae identifie airts o lyke interest.

### 3.1.3
Thar wis a braid collogue forby anent maiters o lyke concern anent the EU Common Agricultur Policie. Thay gien a walcum tae recent CAP reforms, in pairticular the muckle simplification at bes ay efter a-bringan on tae the Aefauld Fairm Peymt Scheme.

### 3.1.4
Aenent kintra oncum, Ministers talkit ower an innovative an strategic approach tae the wirkin thegither an cooperatin anent Kintra Oncum Programs ettlet at the forder o reconciliation in faur-awa kintra airts an eikan a bit tae the economic regenerate o bade-back airts o the Mairches. Anent the EU Programs (2007-2013), thar propones for a Kintra Enaiblar Project, unner the PEACE III Program, at bes ettlet at bringan thegither kintra people frae baith traditions an migrants tae increase forstaundin an for tae wirk agin maiters o sectarianism an racism in a kintra context. Unner the INTERREG IVA Program thar a propone for an athort-mear project for tae forder kintra oncum initiatives, as pairticular answers tae a nummer the maist bade-back kintra airts.
3.2.1 At baith o thir forgaithers, the Airis Govrenment haen represent frae Batt O’Keefe TD, Minister for Leir an Science. The Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent at baith forgaithers frae Caitríona Ruane MLA, Minister for Leir. Edwin Poots MLA, Minister o Cultur, Airts an Leisur gien represent tae the Executive at the Mey forgaither an Junior Minister Jeffrey Donaldson, MP, MLA giean represent tae the Executive at the December forgaither.

3.2.2 Ministers gaed wi propones for futur wark anent Leir Unnerachievement at bes for haean its focus at the outset tae inpit for the uphauld o parents an faimlies wi giean thair bairns a haund wi leir an challenges afore bairns frae the maist bade-back backgrunds. Thay taen tent o the positive din frae the successfu first jint confeerance anent numeracie forby. The airis identifeed in the din for farder oncum, comprehendin the wirkin thegither possible in the airt o the mathematics in staurt-up dominie leir, bes a-thinkan on frae the baith Depairments.

3.2.3 Ministers gien a walcum tae the upset frae the Depairment o Leir o a Taskforce anent Travellar Leir at bes for bringan thegither a braid reinge stakehauldars ahtoth the islan. Forby, thar a propone for tae hauld a North South confeerance anent Best Practice in Travellar Leir in Mairch 2009. A propone for tae hauld a peer learnin event in Mairch 2009 anent schuil tendin wis gien a walcum tae forby, an Ministers leukit fore tae the ontak a progress din at the neist forgaither.

3.2.4 Anent Dominie Qualifications, Ministers taen tent o the ongan wirkin an giean out seminars for student dominies for tae gie wittins anent the Earse leid qualifications noot for tae cum a dominie in Soudrin schuils, the ongan wirkin thegither anent leadership oncum maiters, an anent the jint research project anent the best wey o bringan in an bringan on new schuil heid anes.

3.2.5 In the airt o Byordinar Leir Needs, Ministers taen tent o the farder progress made anent the services gien frae the aa-isl an Middletoun Centre for Autism an the wark at the Centres wirkars bes efter takkan on for tae speir at parents an ither paivities wi an interest. Ministers gien a walcum tae ploys frae tae the baith Depairments o
Leir for the jint organisation o an Autistic Spectrum Disorders Confeerance in November 2009.

3.2.6 Ministers gien a walcum forby tae the ongan commitment tae athort-mear Schuil, Youth an Dominie niffers as a road for the forder o lyke forstau dendin an makk an the maist o inlets for lyke avantage. The wark program for the North South Niffer Consortium (NSEC) at bes for the uphaul o the wark o the baith Depairments, an bring an o a jint approach for the futur management an catter for leir niffers, wis gien a walcum.
3.3.1 The NSCM Air for Cooperate in Environment comprehends Research intae Environment fen an Watter Qualitie Management an Waste Management in an athort-mear context.

3.3.2 Wark anent thir maiters wis taen fore in 2008 frae the Depairtment o the Environment an the Depairtment o Environment, Heirship an Local Govrenment.

- Progress wis made anent the remuive o furth-o-the-laa dumpit waste gan wi the raa cairt fore-greed.
- The baith Depairtments gaed on wi progress tae the oncum o a jint Mercat Oncum Program for recyclet stuff wi foums on pairticular deliverables o lyke benefit an makkan the best o inlets for tae mak advantage o economies o scale. The maiter o a paper mill will be talkit owre at an NSCM forgaither in a bit.

3.3.2 Progress gaed on wi the implement o the EU Watter Framework Directive. A scroll o the River Howe Management Ploys wis brocht on for the thrie athort-mear river howe airts, an nott unner the Directive an sat furth on 22 December 2008. Thir ploys sets out the environment ettles for watter curns for tae cum tae the watter qualitie staundarts nott thegither wi the measurs taen on for tae cum tae thir ettles.

- The Environment Fen Agentrie (EPA) an the Norlin Airlan Environment Agentrie (NIEA) taen in cooperate anent environment research thenou an leukit owre the abilitie for farder wark comprehendan environment awaur campaigns.
The Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent frae Michael McGimpsey MLA, Minister for Halth, Social Services an Public Sauftie an Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister o Agricultur an Kintra Oncum. The Airis Govrenment haen represent frae Mary Harney, TD, Minister for Halth an Bairns an Mary Wallace, TD, Minister o State wi byordinar responsibilitie for Halth Forder an Meat Sauftie.

At the forgaither, anent Halth, Ministers gien a walcum tae the progress made anent a reinge maiters comprehendan, the stair-up findins o the pilot studies intae athort-mear cooperate anent GP furth-o-hours proveesion, oncums anent the pairt o a satellite radiotherapie centre at Altnagelvin Hospital an the reinge oncums anent Cancer Research. They taen in an update anent the jint Feasibilitie Study, at bes for giean thocht tae options an inlets for mair cooperatin anent halth an social caur. Ministers gien a walcum tae the braid reinge cooperate anent halth forder thenou organ athor heid airts comprehendan menfowks halth, pheisical activitie/

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3.4.2 At the forgaither, anent Halth, Ministers gien a walcum tae the progress made anent a reinge maiters comprehendan, the stair-up findins o the pilot studies intae athort-mear cooperate anent GP furth-o-hours proveesion, oncums anent the pairt o a satellite radiotherapie centre at Altnagelvin Hospital an the reinge oncums anent Cancer Research. They taen in an update anent the jint Feasibilitie Study, at bes for giean thocht tae options an inlets for mair cooperatin anent halth an social caur. Ministers gien a walcum tae the braid reinge cooperate anent halth forder thenou organ athor heid airts comprehendan menfowks halth, pheisical activitie/

3.4.3 Ministers talkit owre the braid reinge cooperate anent suicide fen an gaed wi propones an ploys for futur cooperate in airts the lyke o: the aa-islan evaluate o the Appleed Suicide Intervention Skeels Leir, the oncum o performance indicatars relate tae the Aa-Islan Action Ploy, an the furthset o a yeirlie din anent the aa-islan Ploy tae be put at NSCM ilka twalmond.

3.4.4 The upset o a co-ordinatan curn frae the baith Halth Depairtments an the oncum o a wark program for tae bring on cooperate anent Bairn Fen wis gien a walcum. Ploys for tae bring on an athort-mear awaur-heftan campaign alang wi non-government curns for tae think on the grawan problems associate wi the internet an the social netwirkin wis talkit owre an ongan cooperatin anent athort-mear monitor an management o sex offendars wis gien a walcum.
3.5.1 Tourism Ireland Ltd has responsibilities for the marketing in overseas lands of the island of Ireland like a tourist point. Tourism Ireland has a Board of 12 members taken from the NSCM. The President and Vice-President of the Board is Mr. Hugh Friel and Ms. Ciara Boyle. The Board members are in Annex 2. The Head Executive of Tourism Ireland is Mr. Paul O’Toole. Further details are at www.tourismireland.com.

3.5.2 The Northern Ireland Executive have represented at this forgaither from Nigel Dodds OBE, MP, MLA, Minister of Enterprise Trade an Invest an Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA, Minister of Agriculture an Kintra Oncum. The Airis Government have represented from Martin Cullen, TD Minister for Arts, Sports an Tourism.

3.5.3 At the forgaither, Ministers were in a progress din frae the Preses. The din haen its focus on governance, Heid an Business Ploys an the Buidrs thochtis anent the heid pairts o competitiveness.

3.5.4 Ministers taen tent o whit wis ongan wi the implement o Tourism Ireland’s Business Ploy 2008, the analysis o the Visitar an Incum Tairgots, an the mair challengean trade environment cumman up frae upbiggit economic want o siccar in a wheen heid fremmit mercats.

3.5.5 Forby, thay taen tent o the grawan import o new an oncumman mercats for the futur grawth o fremmit visitars tae the islan Airlan. Tourism Irelands propone for tae open a New an Developan Mercats Hub Biggin for tae mak the Companie aibe for mair effective wirkin agin mair world-owre kempin wis gien a walcum. Ministers appruived an upbig in Tourism Ireland’s wirkar nummers for tae mak the Companie aibe for the ontak o wirkers for the New an Developan Markets Hub Biggin in the propone.

3.5.6 Anent the captur o data anent the nummer o visitars, Ministers taen tent o a paper anent Tourism Statistics an speirit at thair Depairments tae speir efter the agenteries necessar for tae get a din tae the neist appropriate NSCM forgaither.
The Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent at this forgaithe frae Conor Murphy MP, MLA, Minister for Regions Omcum an Arlene Foster MLA, Minister o the Environment. The Airis Govrenment haen represent frae Minister Noel dempsey TD, Minister for Transport.

At the forgaithe, Ministers taen tent o an gien a walcum tae the inlet for tae talk owre athort-meir cooperate anent Strategic Transport Plannin an Raa Sauftie.

Thay taen tent o progress on the A5 (Norwast Gatewey tae Aughnacloy) an A8 (Belfast tae Larne) raa projects an at the A5 project wis on ettlet at gettan its preliminar road gang pruiw gin the hairst or the winter o 2008.

Ministers leukit owre progress anent propones for impruivan the Dublín-Belfast rail service an taen tent o the commitment o the Department for Regions Omcum for tae impruive the railway line frae Belfast tae Derry an tae tak on a study for tae leuk owre the lang-term social, pheisical an economic owcunc o the railway aorth the Norwast.

3.6.5 Thay taen tent o the progress a-makk anent bringan doun raa deiths frae the owreances on the bith sides o the meir. Ministers speirt efter mair wark anent a greeance atween the bith anent the EU Convent on Drivin Disqualifications for tae mak siccar at hit wis brocht intae effect gin the winter o 2008/2009 an the abilitie for farder cleekin anent heid raa sauftie maiters the lyke o drink drivin leemits, raa sauftie strategies an athort-meir enforcement.

3.6.6 Ministers taen tent at the Derry Ceetie Council haed gien the necessar unnertakkins anent the govrenance arryngements at the Ceetie o Derry airport for tae mak them aible for the first peyment o grant allouances for a-makk in Februar 2008. The Executive an the Airis Government haed peyed grants cumman tae owre £5.6m. Forby the appruived grant scheme, the Derry Ceetie Council gien catter for the biggin o a new taxiwey an braider aircraft pairkin apron. Thay taen tent at the Derry Ceetie Council wis efter makkan a commitment tae the strecht-aff incorporate o the Ceetie o Derry airport intae a companie haill aucht the Council an efter, athen a period o 18 mond, aither sale o equitie o the companie in fou or sale o the companie but wi the Council uphauldan the owreance o the airport laund wi a lang-term lease.
Derry Ceeties Council haed sat up a buird o rede comprehendand undependan members aa for haean the reform aa by gin December 2009.

3.6.7 Ministers leukit owre progress anent projects tae open aince mair the Annaghroe an Knocknaginny brigs on the Tyrone/Monaghan mear an talkit owre progress anent the Airis Goventments propose for the biggin o a brig at Nairrae Watter cleekan the Countie Louth wi the Countie Doun.

3.6.8 Ministers talkit owre Sustainable Transport an taen tent at the Depairtment o Transport wis efter settan the 2020 Veesion - Sustainable Traivel an Transport paper furth for public speirin an at the Depairtment for Regions Oncum wis ay gan on wi a nummer initiatives anent sustainable transport.

3.6.9 Ministers taen tent at an athort-mear commontie-foundit kintra transport pilot project wis for a-beginnan gin the end o 2008.

3.6.10 Wark an studies anent rapid transit wis a-takkan on in Cork, Galwey, Limerick, Watterford an Belfast, an Ministers gien a walcum tae the ongan wark an collegues atween officials anent the cleekin o wittins an cooperate in this airt.

3.6.11 Ministers gien a walcum tae the presentation frae IBEC/CBI anent the findins o the “Frecht Transport Din for the Islan Airlan” an greed at thair officials gie thocht tae thae recommends o the Study as answered tae the NSCM Transport Airt for Cooperate an gie a dis tae a futur forgaithee.
FOYLE, CARLINGFORD AN AIRIS LICHTS COMMISSION

BACKGROUND

3.7.1 The NSCM forgaithers anent Aquacultr an Marine maiters for tae tak deceesions anent policies an daeins for implement frae the Foyle, Carlingford an Airis Lichts Commission (FCILC). The FCILC haes a Buird o 12 members taen on frae the NSCM at taks on the functions o the Curn anent the Foyle an Carlingford airts throu the Loughs Agentrie. The Preses an Preses depute o the Buird is Mr Tarlach O Crosain an Ms Jacqui McConville. The Buird members thenou kythes in the Annex 2. The Heid Executive o the Loughs Agentrie is Mr Derick Anderson. Farder details kythes at www.loughs-agency.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forgaither</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FCILC</td>
<td>21 Mey</td>
<td>Dublin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCILC</td>
<td>26 Juin</td>
<td>Belfast</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3.7.2 At the forgaither on 21 Mey the Airis Govrenment haen represent frae Eamon Ryan, TD, Minister for Communications, Energy an Natural Resources. The Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent frae Michelle Gildernew, MP, MLA, Minister o Agricultur an Kintra Oncum an Minister Edwin Poots, MLA, Minister o Cultur, Airts an Leisur. At the forgaither on 26 Juin the Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent frae Minister Gildernew an Junior Minister Jeffrey Donaldson, MP, MLA. The Airis Govrenment haen represent frae Minister Ryan an Minister o State Sean Power, TD.

3.7.3 At thir forgaithers, Ministers taen in progress dins frae the Preses an the Heid Executive. Thir dins comprehendit the Agentries ploys, wi wirkan thegither wi ither curns, for the deliver o its Marine Tourism an Recreate an Fishin strategie. Forby, Ministers taen tent at the Agentrie haed coft a 17 metre catamaran for aroun £300,000 (€380,000). This boat will be o uiss for the gaither o management data nott for the sustainable oncum o the Lough Foyle an the Carlingford Lough.

3.7.4 Ministers taen tent o progress anent Commence Orders for tae gie effect tae whit kythes in the 2007 Foyle an Carlingford Fisheries laas. The Orders bes nott for tae bring fore a paint-bi-paint an managed inpit o the new pouers open tae the Loughs Agentrie for tae bring on an gie licences tae aquacultr an for tae gie fen tae the fisheries in the Foyle an Carlingford airts. Ministers taen

Fisherie Officears electrofishin on the River Roe
tent at the first Order cam intae wirkin 1 Juin 2008 an the 
ettle is the input o the baith farder Orders in 2009.

3.7.5 Efter public speirins 2007 an aince mair 2008 anent the propones, Ministers gien appruive tae fyve sets regulates etttled at the consair o saamon, sea trout an the hamelie oyster in the Foyle an Carlingford airts. Thir comprehends the Foyle Airt an Carlingford Airt (Defendin on Sale o Saamon an Sea Trout Fungen wi Rod an Line) Regulates 2008; the Foyle Airt (Owreance o Oyster Fishin) Regulates 2008; the Foyle Airt (Licensin o Oyster Fishin) Regulates 2008; the Foyle Airt (Oyster Log Beuk an Identifeein) Regulates 2008; an the Foyle Airt (Designate laundan Airts) Regulates 2008.
Meat Saufttie

**Background**

3.8.1 The NSCM forgainthers anent Meat Saufttie maiters for tae tak deceesions anent policies an daeins for the implement frae the Meat Saufttie Forder Buird (FSPB). FSPB wirks unner the braund identifeear “saefood”. Hit haes a buird o rede o 12 members, taen on frae the NSCM, abuin aa a-dae wi the forder o meat saufttie, an upheudan scientific cooperate atween institutes wirkan in thon airt. Mr John Dardis an Mr Campbell Tweedie is Preses an Preses Depute o the Buird. The Buird members thenou kythes in the Annex 2. The Heid Executive o saefood is Mr Martin Higgins. Farder details kythes at [www.saefood.eu](http://www.saefood.eu).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forgaitheer</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pairt</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meat Saufttie</td>
<td>28 Mey</td>
<td>Belfast</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3.8.2 The Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent at this forgaitheer frae Michael McGimpsey MLA, Minister for Halth, Social Services an Public Saufttie an Michelle Gildernew MP, MLA Minister o Agricultur an Kintra Oncum. The Airis Govrenment haen represent frae Mary Harney, TD, Minister for Halth an Bairns an Mary Wallace Minister o State wi byordinar responsibilitie for Halth Forder an Meat Saufttie.

3.8.3 Ministers gien a walcum tae the ontak o the new Buird o rede for the Meat Saufttie Forder Buird an taen in a progress din sat furth frae the Preses an the Heid Executive anent the daeins o saefood, comprehendan the ontak o experts for tae facilitate an gie technical an expert rede anent saefoods propones for an enteric reference laborator.

3.8.4 Thay taen tent o the ongan scientific an forder daeins o saefood, comprehendan, preliminar collogues wi the Meat Staundarts Agentrie in London anent the cleekin o scientific wittins an the furthset o new research projects, comprehendan infectious intestinal disease in the commontie an infill o the gastroenteritis research project. The braider allergie awaur program, the meat hygiene awaur campaign an the ongan pairtnerie wark wi ither curns an agentries, gien heidin pairticular frae the awaurd o ‘best in shaws’ staund at the 2008 Balmoral Shaws, wis gien tent forby.
3.8.5 Forby, Ministers gien a walcum tae the upset o the aa-islän obesitie daeins forum for a thrieyeir. Thay taen tent o the oncum o a reinge owrepit initiatives in outwaled airts comprehendan the workplace an leir airts, an taen tent o wark for the biggin o new evidence founs frae a reinge sources comprehendan academia, research an a-daean, an owreseean.
Inland Waterways

BACKGROUND

3.9.1 Waterways Ireland has responsibility for the management, upkeep, and restoration of the inland navigable waterway systems around the island, above all for recreation purposes. It has responsibility therein for these waterways: Bann Navigation, Erne System, Grand Canal, Nether Bann Navigation, Royal Canal, Shannon- Erne Waterway and Shannon Navigation cumman to around 1,000km of navigable waterways. Waterways Ireland has responsibility for the restoration of part of the Ulster Canal between Clones and Upper Lough Erne after restoration, for its management, upkeep and maintenance. The Head Executive of Waterways Ireland is Mr John Martin. Further details can be found at www.waterwaysireland.org.

3.9.2 The Northern Ireland Executive have representation at this forgather from Gregory Campbell MP, MLA, Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure; Conor Murphy MP, MLA, Minister for Regional Development; Éamon Ó Cuív, TD, Minister for Community, Kintra and Gaeltacht Affairs.

3.9.3 At the forgather, Ministers were informed of progress since the Head Executive informed them of Waterways Ireland. Ministers monitored the progress since the restoration of the Clones to Upper Lough Erne part of the Ulster Canal and agreed that Waterways Ireland had begun the preparation of a preliminary design for it, and proposed Waterways Ireland manages the loan of the contract.

3.9.4 Ministers gave a welcome to Waterways Ireland’s tourism and marketing initiatives and agreed that the Head Executive needed to bring its corporate identity, foster the public’s interest in the waterways, and create a platform for upholding tourism.

3.9.5 Ministers agreed that between September 2007 and May 2008, Waterways Ireland gien 86 metre mair o public moorings on the Royal Canal an the Shannon, 283 metre o moorings on the Erne System an a 36-metre floating mooring.
an gangwey on the Nether Bann. Forby, Ministers taen tent o the wey the watterweys is efter a-heftan for ane o the heid tourism products a-giean out, an Watterweys Airlans guid impact in the forder o the watterweys, thair tourism an recreate abilitie, an pairticular the experiences open alang the watterwey gang frae Belleek tae Limerick.

3.9.6 Ministers talkit owre the Curns Business Ploy for 2008 an taen tent o the Yeirlie Din an Accounts for 2006.

3.9.7 Ministers taen tent o the propones for a program o daeins unner the Nations Oncum Ploy (NDP) 2007-2013 comprehendan the infill o the reopenin o the Royal Canal tae boat traffic 2009, infill o investigates an the biggin o by-pairts on the Shannon Navigation, happin o ither navigations as bes that thenou wi impruivan ingangs, facilities an infrastructur an preliminary investigates anent a nummer ither watterweys.

3.9.8 Ministers taen tent at Watterweys Airlan haed begoud a pilot study anent register o propertie for tae prui the graith an the processes nott for the register o aa whit hit bes aucht. Forby, thay taen tent at a tender haed been gien out anent a pilot propertie register o twa airts o the canals in Dublin. Ministers greed tae a nummer dispones an a Compulsor Purchase Order.

NEW WATTERWEYS AIRLAN HEIDBIGGIN

3.9.9 The new Watterweys Airlan heidbiggin in Inniskillin, takkan in aroun 70 wirkars, wis aa by wi the biggin in September 2008, on schedule an athin the househauld.
### The North South Language Currn (An Foras Teanga/Tha Boord O Leid)

#### Background

3.10.1 The Language Curn comprehends twa sindert agentries – The Earse Leid Agentrie/Foras na Gaeilge, an the Ulster-Scots Agentrie/Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch. The Agentries forders the Earse leid an Ulster-Scots leid an cultur. The Buird o the Language Curn is taen on frae NSCM. The Preses o Foras na Gaeilge, Mr Liam Ó Mhaoilmhichil, an the Preses o Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch, Mr Mark Thompson, bes jint Preses o the Language Curn.

3.10.2 Thar 15 ither members on the Buird o Foras na Gaeilge an 7 ither members on the Buird o Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch. Thir kythes in the Annex 2. Mr Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh is the Heid Executive o Foras na Gaeilge an Mr George Patton is the Heid Executive o Tha Boord O Ulstèr-Scotch. Farder details kythes at [www.fornasnageilge.ie](http://www.fornasnageilge.ie) an [www.ulsterscotsagency.com](http://www.ulsterscotsagency.com).

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<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>4 July</td>
<td>Limavady</td>
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3.10.3 The Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent at this forgaither frae Gregory Campbell, MP, MLA, Minister o Culture, Airts an Leisur an Conor Murphy, MP, MLA, Minister o Regions Oncum. The Airis Govrenment haen represent frae Eamon O’ Cuív TD, Minister for Common Tie, Kintra an Gaeltacht Daeins.

3.10.4 At this forgaither, Ministers appruived the Heid an Business Ploys an greed the propones for househaulds for the baith Agentries for 2008. Thay taen tent o the lyke househaulds for the baith Agentries for 2009 an 2010 sae bean budgetar thocht in the baith stewartries be wun tae.

3.10.5 Ministers taen tent o a propone frae the Minister for Cultur, Airts an Leisur for tae gie farder catter forby o £1m tae the Ulster-Scots Agentrie in 2009 an 2010. The Minister for Common Tie, Kintra an Gaeltacht Daeins wis blythe wi the propone (sae bean budgetar thocht in the baith stewartries an the necessar catter accountabilitie seistems cum in for the Agentrie). Ministers speirit at officials for tae busk a muckle paper...
anent the propose for cater, for a-bringan afore the neist NSCM forgaither in Langage sector format.

3.10.6 Ministers gien a walcum tae the wark at wis efter a-daean for tae bring on the decentralisin o 30 Foras na Gaeilge posts frae Dublin tae Gaith Dobhair gan wi the announce made frae the Airis Govrenment, December 2003. Thay appruived seiven mair posts for Foras na Gaeilge takkan tent at fyve o the posts wad be put in Gaith Dobhair an twa in Belfast. Thay gien mair thocht tae futur arrygements for Colmccle, appruived the owregie o its functions, wirkars an cater tae Foras na Gaeilge, an greed at Foras na Gaeilge an Bòrd na Gàidhlig wad set up a pairtnerie for tae tak fore the ettles an tairgets o Colmccle.
Backgroud

3.11.1 The estte o the SEUPB is the effective management an implement o catter programs awnan tae the baith governments an the European Union ettlet at the deliver o social an economic impruivements tae the fowk in Norlin Airlan an Airlan throu athort-mear, athort-nations an atween-regions cooperate. The Heid Executive o the SEUPB is Mr Pat Colgan.

3.11.2 The SEUPB is the Managean Owreance Curn for the EU Program for Peace an Reconciliation (PEACE III) an the INTERREG IVA Program. Forby, hit haes responsibilitie for the monitor an forder o the Common Chaiter, the strategic framewark for athort-mear cooperate ahoth a braid reinge sectors greed atween the baith Govenments. Forby, the Curn haes responsibilitie for the North South pairts o the Commontie Initiatives (LEADER +, URBAN II, an EQUAL in Airlan an Norlin Airlan. SEUPB will gie uphauld tae North/South pairttakin in INTERREG IVB Ahoth-nations Programs an the INTERREG IVC Atween-regions Program. Farder details kythes at www.seupb.org.

Details o the Curns daeins in 2008 kythes in the paragraphs ablo.

EU Programs 2000-2006

PEACE

3.11.4 In 2008 the SEUPB cam tae the end o its role anent the closure o PEACE I awnan tae the baith member states an brocht the PEACE II Program tae a successfu closure forby.

INTERREG IIIA

3.11.5 The INTERREG IIIA Program wun tae aa its yeirlie spendin tairgets an cam tae owre the maist fek o its performance tairgets.

EU Programs 2007-2013

3.11.6 Baith the PEACE III an INTERREG IVA Programs haen formal appruive frae the EU Commission 6 November 2007. Comprehendan jint catter frae the Airis
Government and the Northern Ireland Executive, in a £589m (Peace III £333m and INTERREG IVA £256m) will be made open through these programs for invest for the help with biggan a peaceful stable society in Northern Ireland and the creation of a stronger authority within the region. In 2008, for the biannual Programs, Steering Committees were set up, project work criteria were agreed and various themes were open for the application. In 2008, the SEUPB had its focus on the efficient delivery of the new Programs for the making of a Peace Program; issues were won than, Program impact has most impact in the airt.

INTERREG IVB and INTERREG IVC Programs

3.11.7 The SEUPB has a role in facilitation of North South partnership in the INTERREG IV A/short-nations and A/short-regions Programs (IVB and IVC). In 2008 the SEUPB was active in the fostering of the programs and brought forward quality project applications. Forby, the SEUPB set up a number of events for the fostering of North South partnership over the year 2008, comprehending a successful workshop in June and two presentations to able project applicants.

EU Open Days 2008

3.11.8 The SEUPB and the biannual Finance Departments have brought on proposals for the setting of a PEACE network for the communication of the experience of managing the EU PEACE programs at the put out at an EU “Open Days” event in Brussels, 7 October 2008.
3.12.1 The Trade an Business Oncum Curn, cryed InterTradeIreland, wis sat up for the niffer o wittins an co-ordinate o wark anent trade, business oncum an relate maiters, in airts whaur the baith administrations pairticular grees it wad be in thair lyke interest. InterTradeIreland haes a Buird o 12 members taen on frae the NSCM. Thir kythes in Annex 2. The Preses an Preses Depute o the Buird o InterTradeIreland is Dr David Dobbin an Mr John Fitzgerald. The Heid Executive is Mr Liam Nellis. Farder details kythes at www.intertradeireland.com.

3.12.2 The Norlin Airlan Executive haen represent at this forgaither frae Nigel Dodds, MP, MLA, Minister o Enterprise, Trade an Invest an Michelle Gildernew, MP, MLA, Minister o Agricultur an Kintra Oncum. The Airis Govrenment haen represent frae Micheál Martin TD, Minister for Fremmit daeins an Jimmy Devins TD, Minister o State at the Depairtments o Enterprise, Trade an Employ an Leir an Science.

3.12.3 At the forgaither, Ministers gien a walcum tae the ontak o the new Buird o InterTradeIreland. The Preses an the Heid Executive gien Ministers a progress din anent the daeins o the Curn. Ministers gien a walcum tae InterTradeIrelands create o 39 North/South Business Netwarks an the proveesion o wittins, rede an services tae mair nor 14,500 companies, the pairtakkin o mair nor 1300 companies direct on InterTradeIrelands programs, cumman tae the generate o £134m/€171m wirth o trade an business oncum vailyie, wi an eikit forecast o £260m/€331m tae kythe frae ongan programs.

3.12.4 The Ministers taen tent o the upbig in athort-mear trade o 19.6% atween 2003 an 2006 an at recent feegurs shaws at athort-mear trade is gaed up tae £3.1 billion in 2007.

3.12.5 InterTradeIrelands Corporate Ploy wis gien appruive. Ministers taen tent o twa heid strategic ettles for tae generate Business Vailyie, wi enhauncean companie competitiveness an abilitie throu cooperative North/South ploys an tae impruive the Competitive Environment, for lyke avantage, throu cooperative policie research, dins an netwarks. Ministers gien uphauld tae the prioritie InterTradeIreland will gie tae Science.
Technologie an Innovation in its Heid Ploy; an taen tent o the tairgetts identifeed in the 2008 Business Ploy:

- £47m/€69m total vailjie o trade an business oncum activitie kythean, generate frae InterTradeIrelands North/South business netwarks an frae firms takkan pairt in InterTradeIrelands projects;
- 400 firms active comprehendan in bringan on the competitiveness o thair businesses throu the uiss o InterTradeIrelands graith gien throu its cooperative North/South initiatives;
- 2000 firms takkan pairt in the oncum o thair business abilities throu the uiss o InterTradeIrelands wittins an ken services;
- 25 North/South cooperative business an economic netwarks

3.12.6 Forby, Ministers taen tent o InterTradeIrelands Yeirlie Owreleuk o Daesins an Yeirlie Din 2006.
The North-South Council of Ministers (NSCM) is upheld from a standing Joint Secretariat with workers from the members of the Northern Irish Civil Service and the Airis Civil Service. The Office of the First Minister and First Minister depute (OFMDFM) is the oversight department of the Northern Irish civil servants and the department of Fremmit Daeins (DFA) is the oversight department of the Airis civil servants.

Mary Bunting is the Northern Joint Secretary and Tom Hanney is the Southern Joint Secretary. The Joint Secretaries Depute is Pat Donaghy (Northern) and Niall Holohan (Southern).

FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Joint Secretariat comprehends:

- arranging the schedule of Council gatherings in different formats;
- making specific political/Ministerial fore-greance
to agenda for gatherings of the Council;
- busking or commissioning papers for gatherings of the Council, comprehending about its work program;
- making drafts of joint communiques and records of decisions of the Council;
- pitting over decisions of the Council and monitor their implementation;
- making drafts of the yearly diary about the ongoings of the Council;
- working as a channel of communication with Implement Curns and facilitating their oncum;
- clearing, where necessary through the designate Department or Office in either stewartrie, with the Secretariat of the Brits-Airis Intergovernment Conference, with the Secretariat of the Brits-Airis Council and with the North/South joint parliamentary forum and an undependent speirin forum whenever sat up; and
- carrying out other work as the Council could bring.

CATER

Workers costs come from OFMDFM and DFA. All other costs associate with the Joint Secretariat and the NSCM bes claucht atween the baith stewartries. The cost of the rinnin o the Joint Secretariat in 2008 cam tae £1,724,872 / €2,200,151.
ANNEX TWA

NORTH SOUTH CURNS BUIRD MEMBERS
ANNEX TWO: North South Bodies’ Board Members

MEAT SAUTFIE FORDER BIURD
BIURD O REDE

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

THA BOORD O ULSTÈR SCOTCH

Mark Thompson
(Preses o Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch/
Jint Preses o North South Langage Curn)
Ian Adamson
Dr Aileen Douglas
Angela Graham
William Humphrey
William Leathem
Jacqui Reed
William Roulston

NORTH SOUTH LANGAGE CURN -
FORAS NA GAELIGE

Liam Ó Maoilmhichil
(Preses o Foras na Gaeilge/
Jint Preses o An Foras Teanga)
Eoghan Mac Cormaic
(Preses Depute)
Áine Andrews
Lucilita Breathnach
Seanna Breathnach
Adelaide Nic Cáitheachaigh
Máire Gallagher
Máiréad Nic Giolla Mhíchil
Liam Kennedy
Norman Henry
Éamonn Kinch
Marcas Mac Ruairí
Dónal Ó Bearra
Pádraic Ó Bladhá
Diarmuid Ó Murchú
Caolfhionn Nic Pháidín

THE FOYLE, CARLINGFORD AN
AIRIS LIGHTS COMMISSION

Tarlach O Crosain
(Preses)
Jacqui McConville
(Preses Depute)
Enda Bonner
Brendan Byrne
John Byrne
Denis Haughey
Alan McCulla
Joe Miller
John Mulcahy
Winston Patterson
Thomas Sloan
Jim Wilson
THE TRADE AN
BUSINESS ONCUM CURN

David Dobbin
(Preses)
John Fitzgerald
(Preses Depute)
Brendan Butler
Ray Doherty
Rosaleen Doherty
Sean Gallagher
Jack Gilmour
Hugh Logue
Padraig MacLochlainn
Patricia McKeown
Dr Gerard O’Hare
Tom Scott

TOURISM IRELAND LIMITED

Hugh Friel
(Preses)
Ciara Boyle
(Preses Depute)
Brian Ambrose
David Lyle
Robert Manson
Mandy Martin
Bill McGinnis
Tom McGrath
Moira McNamara
John Power
Shaun Quinn
Ann Riordan