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Peter Smyth  
Joint Secretary (North)



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May 2005

## Introduction

## Establishment

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

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

## Areas of Operation of the Council

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

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

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

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

- Agriculture
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Transport
- Tourism

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

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

## The Formats of Council Meetings

1.7 The NSMC meets in a number of Formats. It meets in Plenary Format with the Northern Ireland Executive delegation led by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and the Irish Government delegation led by the Taoiseach

and the Tánaiste. The task of the Plenary is to take an overview of co-operation on the island and of the North/South institutions.

1.8 The NSMC also meets in Institutional Format with the Northern Ireland Executive being represented by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and the Irish Government by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The task of the Institutional Format is to consider institutional and cross-sectoral issues, including issues relating to the European Union, and to resolve any disagreements.

1.9 The NSMC meets in Sectoral Format to oversee co-operation in the agreed 12 Areas or Sectors. At these meetings, the Irish Government is represented by the Minister responsible for that Sector, while the Northern Ireland Administration is represented by two Ministers nominated by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister on a cross-community basis, one normally being the Minister with responsibility for the relevant Sector within the Executive. This is in line with the requirements of the Agreement and the Northern Ireland Act 1998 that participation by the Executive in the NSMC must be such as to ensure cross-community involvement.

## Suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly

1.10 Following the suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly on 14 October 2002, an agreement between the UK and Irish Governments was made and contained in an exchange of notes dated 19 November 2002. This agreement provided a mechanism for decisions to be taken on policies and actions relating to the Bodies during the period of suspension of the Assembly. Interim Procedures have been put in place by the NSMC Joint Secretariat for the processing of Ministerial decisions while the arrangements set out in the Exchange of Notes between the Governments apply.

## Functions of the Council

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

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

## North/South Bodies

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

The Bodies are:

- **Waterways Ireland**
- **The Food Safety Promotion Board (FSPB)**

- **The Trade and Business Development Body (InterTradeIreland)**
- **The Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)**
- **The North/South Language Body** (consisting of two Agencies i.e. Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch)
- **The Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission (FCILC)** (consisting of two Agencies i.e. the Loughs Agency and The Lights Agency - see page 14).

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

1.14 Further information on the work of the Bodies is set out in Chapter 2.

### Areas for Co-Operation

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

- **Education:** education for children with special needs (eg autism, hearing impairment), educational under-achievement, teacher qualifications, and school, youth and teacher exchanges;
- **Agriculture:** discussion of Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) issues, animal and plant health policy and research, and rural development;

- **Environment:** water quality management, waste management in a cross-border context, research into environmental protection, environmental databases, environmental impact of agriculture, and information exchange and environmental awareness ;
- **Health:** accident and emergency services, planning for major emergencies, high technology equipment, cancer research and health promotion;
- **Transport:** strategic planning and road and rail safety. While co-operation would primarily arise in respect of road and rail planning, it would take account of issues arising in the port and airport sectors;
- **Tourism:** it was agreed to establish a publicly-owned limited company to market the island of Ireland overseas as a tourism destination.

1.16 Further information on the work of the Council in these areas is set out in Chapter 2.

### North/South Ministerial Council Joint Secretariat

1.17 A standing Joint Secretariat, staffed by members of the Northern Ireland Civil Service and the Irish Government Civil Service, supports the work of the NSMC. Further information on the work of the Secretariat is set out in Annex 2.

This chapter provides an outline of the decisions made and activities undertaken in each of the sectors in 2004.

## Trade and Business Development Sector



Peter Grant(r), Managing Agent of the InterTradelreland FUSION Technology Transfer Programme, and Brendan Donnelly(l) of Enterprise Ireland, a member of the InterTradelreland FUSION Steering Panel pictured at Renley Ltd., a Dublin company which designs and manufactures products for low voltage electricity distribution networks. Renley Ltd is an InterTradelreland FUSION partner company, and is working with Queens University Belfast and Graduate Gavin Tuite.

### Trade And Business Development Body - InterTradelreland

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

#### Functions/Objectives

2.1.2 InterTradelreland's mission, as stated in its Corporate Plan 2002-2004, is "to lead the development of the island economy through distinctive knowledge-based interventions,

which will produce significant returns in the areas of cross-border trade and business development". Its overall objective is to promote North/South trade and business development. To achieve this InterTradelreland is working to develop the capability of businesses to trade on an all-island basis by increasing the stock of knowledge and information required by business and policy makers, and by improving the flow of such knowledge to those who can use it to create value.

2.1.3 Under the overall policy direction of the NSMC, InterTradelreland works in close collaboration with the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, Belfast, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Dublin, and with the existing development agencies, North and South.

2.1.4 InterTradelreland also has the objective of enhancing enterprise competitiveness in a North/South context in areas such as skills availability, telecoms, information technology and electronic commerce.

#### Activities

2.1.5 During 2004 InterTradelreland delivered projects in eight Priority Programme Areas: Trade Awareness, Trade Development, Business & Economic Research, Micro-Enterprise Support, Private Equity, Science & Technology, All Island Benchmarking and Supply Chain Management. In all of these areas InterTradelreland works in close partnership with other economic development agencies and industry and academic partners.

InterTradelreland's key achievements during 2004 include:

- The creation of more than twenty strategic all-island partnerships, through their programmes such as their technology transfer programme (FUSION), supply chain initiatives (Supply Chain Ireland, Supply Chain Champions Programme), micro-enterprise programme (MICROTRADE) and all-island sales and marketing programmes (FOCUS and ACUMEN). InterTradelreland has helped to facilitate co-operation between the two telecommunications regulators (OFCOM and COMREG) by providing research reports into the potential for all-island telecommunications tariffs, and has also agreed a Memorandum of Understanding with the US Council on Competitiveness to help develop increased co-operation between Northern Ireland and Ireland and increased interaction with the United States on competitiveness issues.
- The provision of technical and market information to more than 4500 companies through their programmes and events.
- The generation of more than £20M/€29M worth of direct cross-border business value through activities in programmes such as Supplier Education, EquityNetwork, FUSION, ACUMEN and Network & Getwork.

- The creation and delivery of all-island facilities such as the EquityNetwork Seedcorn Competition, expertiseireland.com (the all-island Research & Development internet portal), go-source.com (the all-island public procurement directory), the MICROTRADE micro-enterprise initiative and INNOVA (the all-island R&D collaboration programme).

- Business & economic research and publications: including in 2004, all-island reports on the Furniture, Horticulture and Financial Services Sectors and Entrepreneurship and the publication of a Quarterly All Island Trade and Production Monitor.

- More than fifty successful all-island business events including the All Island Competitiveness Summit, the EquityNetwork Conference, the All Island Trade and Business Awards, Regional Trade Awareness Events, the All Island Benchmarking Forum seminars, Network & Getwork buyer-supplier events and the PLATO National Networking Day.

- Policy recommendations to government departments in Ireland and Northern Ireland in areas such as competitiveness, entrepreneurship, financial services, horticulture, science & technology, skills and telecommunications.

2.1.6 In February 2005 InterTradelreland launched its 2005-2007 Corporate Plan, and states as its updated Mission:

*To enhance the global competitiveness of the all-island economy to the mutual benefit of Ireland and Northern Ireland through measures such as the creation of knowledge-intensive all-island trade and business development networks and the implementation of all-island trade and business development programmes.*

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



## Food Safety Sector



safefood promotes proper handwashing at the 2004 Balmoral Show

### Food Safety Promotion Board

2.2.1 The Food Safety Promotion Board (FSPB) is principally charged with the promotion of food safety, and supporting scientific co-operation between institutions working in that field. It has an Advisory Board of 12 members, appointed by the NSMC. The Board is chaired by Mr Bertie Kerr, and the Vice-Chairperson is Professor Charlie Daly. The Chief Executive of the FSPB is Mr Martin Higgins. The Board members are listed in Annex 5.

#### Functions/Objectives

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

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

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

matters. Cross-border co-operation between organisations working in these areas is central to the work of the Board.

#### Activities

2.2.4 During 2004, as part of its' continued communications campaign reality check, **safefood** launched an advertising and direct marketing campaign with the specific aim of distribution of fridge thermometers across the island of Ireland. The campaign was a joint initiative with food group Glanbia and 50,000 thermometers were distributed to households.

2.2.5 In response to a consultation process for the development of a Children's advertising code, **safefood** was actively involved with the Broadcasting Commission of Ireland. A breakfast meeting hosted by **safefood** provided a forum to proactively debate the issues. Representatives from the food industry, policy makers, children's groups and academics contributed to the debate.

2.2.6 The **safefood** 2004 conference entitled 'Why Risk it?' was opened by Micheál Martin T.D., the Minister for Health and Children at University College Cork. The conference outlined the real challenges in addressing some of the lifestyle risks of contemporary Ireland. The conference brought together a diverse gathering of expert delegates from throughout the EU, including the new member states.

2.2.7 There was extensive media coverage across each of the 26 district council areas featuring National Food Safety Week in Northern Ireland in May. The message was focused primarily on community organizations, church groups and other associations that cater for members or visitors at meetings, parties or fairs. In mid-May **safefood** and the Food Standards Agency Northern Ireland hosted a joint stand at the Balmoral Show in Belfast. The theme was food safety on the farm.

2.2.8 In a bid to present food safety messages in a manner relevant to students **safefood** embarked on a pilot of direct marketing activity in eight colleges. The campaign developed was entitled 'fit for any society'. Tips on how to survive college without falling foul of food poisoning were presented on eye catching material distributed throughout the colleges.

2.2.9 Research formed a critical element of **safefood's** work. A number of research projects and fellowships were awarded, while high-profile research seminars were held in centres throughout the island of Ireland.

2.2.10 Amongst these a workshop to disseminate the results of the project "The development of a screening system capable of detecting a broad range of toxic and illegal drugs in red meat" was held in Dublin City University in September. A workshop to disseminate the findings of the **safefood** research project assessing the effectiveness of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points in food production plants was held in October.

2.2.11 A review of the strategic development of public health service laboratory services was conducted at the request of the Department of Health and Children. The review covered all Health Board Food Control Laboratories in the South with **safefood** acting as the Secretariat. The report was presented to the Minister for Health and Children Mr. Brian Lenihan T.D. in July at the **safefood** offices in Dublin.

2.2.12 The laboratory-focused Training Mobility Programme was a major catalyst in encouraging staff interaction and technology transfer. **safefood** also hosted a series of workshops across the island at a regional level for laboratory staff covering the areas of laboratory accreditation, internal audit and laboratory management.

2.2.13 Collaborative laboratory action programmes called 'synergy projects' funded by **safefood** continued during the year, including the development and validation of a rapid molecular detection method for bacteria in food. This reduced turnaround times from five days to 24 hours.

2.2.14 The Lablink unit established a quarterly newsletter for laboratory staff. The newsletter published in print and electronic format, is geared at public laboratories working in food safety north and south. It features articles of interest to including regular updates on **safefood's** activities, food industry news and technical information.

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

## Aquaculture and Marine Sector



### Foyle, Carlingford And Irish Lights Commission

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

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

Foyle Fisheries Commission). The Implementation Bodies Agreement also provides that the FCILC should be the General Lighthouse Authority for the island of Ireland. This function currently rests with the Commissioners of Irish Lights, which has lines of accountability to the UK Department for Transport acting as Trustee of the General Lighthouse Fund. British and Irish legislation will be required for the Body to become the General Lighthouse Authority for the island of Ireland and those functions are to be exercised through an agency of the FCILC known as the Lights Agency. However, at its plenary meeting on 28 June 2002, the NSMC, having considered the provisions for the transfer of the functions currently carried out by the Commissioners of Irish Lights,

recognised that complex issues surrounded such a transfer and asked the relevant Ministers and Departments, North and South, to examine the alternative possibilities as a matter of urgency and bring back proposals to Council. It is intended to take this matter forward upon restoration of devolved government in Northern Ireland.

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

### Loughs Agency

#### Functions/Objectives

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

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

2.3.6 Fundamental to the Agency undertaking this full range of responsibilities is the amendment of the primary legislation under which the Foyle Fisheries Commission operated. The necessary amendments to this legislation - the Foyle Fisheries Act 1952 and the Foyle Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1952 - are in the course of preparation by the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

#### Activities

2.3.7 During the year additional resources were deployed by the Sponsoring Departments towards the completion of the draft Bills to amend the primary legislation under which the Loughs Agency of the FCILC operates and as a result progress has been very significant. It is anticipated that final drafts will be available in 2005.

2.3.8 The Agency has also in consultation with the Sponsor Departments finalised its draft implementation plan for the regulation and licensing of shellfisheries and aquaculture in the Loughs and a wide public consultation will be initiated early in 2005.

2.3.9 During 2004 the numbers of adult salmon returning to the Foyle system as recorded by the fish counters showed a small drop on recent years but while such variations are not uncommon the returns in 2005 will be closely monitored.

2.3.10 The disappointing season was further influenced by a major fish kill, which occurred during August on the River Strule in Omagh in which over 700 adult salmon were killed. The Agency, following consultation with the local angling interests and fishery owners, introduced an emergency regulation the Foyle Area and Carlingford Area (Close Seasons for Angling) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 by bringing forward the beginning of the close season in the River Strule and its tributaries from 21st October to 13th September.

2.3.11 The investigations of the genetic diversity of the salmon stocks of the Foyle catchment were completed during the year and are currently undergoing scientific peer review with a view to publication in early 2005. This pioneering work has for the first time identified "DNA markers" for the salmon stocks of each of the eleven sub catchments and in some cases the tributaries of each of these rivers.

2.3.12 The Agency was awarded funding for four projects through the EU Interreg IIIA Water Measure Programme:



- Inshore Patrol Vessel for Carlingford Lough - This vessel will be used by the Agency for protection and survey work within Carlingford Lough.
- Auto-Telemetry Monitoring Buoys for real-time monitoring of the waters of both Lough Foyle and Carlingford Lough. This project is in partnership with Environment and Heritage Service, Marine Institute, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Environmental Protection Agency and will be deployed early in 2005.
- Coded Wire Tagging & Detection Units which will be used for the 2005 smolt run and for monitoring the returning adult salmon.
- Weir and Fish Counter River Strule Omagh. This project has been developed in partnership with Omagh District Council and is on target for completion in mid 2005.

2.3.13 "Riverwatch" the Agency's education and information facility continued to grow from strength to strength and during 2004 welcomed its 10,000th visitor to the centre. Outreach initiatives such as "Adopt a Stream", "Alevin Release" and "Hatchery in the Classroom" have also generated considerable interest throughout the catchments.

2.3.14 An example of some successful events organised to promote recreational fishing in the Foyle and Carlingford Areas were:

- The Agency's inaugural two day Angling Fair
- Carlingford Saltwater Fly and Lure Fishing Festival.
- Junior Angling Festival
- Irish Ladies Fly Fishing Association Introduction Day
- Safety for Anglers Course

2.3.15 The Audit and Strategy development work on Marine Tourism continued throughout the year in partnership with Local Councils, the North West Regional Cross Border Group and the East Border Region Committee. Wide consultation was undertaken and the final draft was considered by the Board's Marine Tourism Sub Committee towards the end of the year and the approved draft will be submitted for Board approval early in 2005.

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

## Special EU Programmes Body



INTERREG IIIA Director Jack O'Connor (left) and PEACE II Director, Shaun Henry (right) celebrate Europe Day in St George's Market, Belfast.

### Functions/Objectives

2.4.1 In 1999, the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) assumed responsibility for the management of the 1994-1999 round of EU Structural Fund Programmes, which previously had been undertaken by the Department of Finance and Personnel in the North and the Department of Finance in the South. This responsibility included the closure of these Programmes no later than 31 March 2003. The SEUPB also became the Managing Authority for the PEACE II and INTERREG IIIA Programmes, with responsibility for monitoring the performance of the North/South elements of the other Community Initiative Programmes (LEADER+,

EQUAL and URBAN II). The SEUPB also has responsibility for monitoring and promoting the implementation of co-operation between the two parts of Ireland through the terms of the Common Chapter, which is an integral component of the both the National Development Plan for Ireland and the Northern Ireland Structural Funds Plan. Mr Pat Colgan is the Chief Executive of the SEUPB.

### Activities

2.4.2 2004 saw the appointment of a new Chief Executive to the SEUPB, Pat Colgan, who took over from Acting Chief Executive, Nuala Kerr. The new Chief Executive has

extensive experience working within the EU and brings considerable international knowledge to the organisation. Since taking up post, Pat Colgan, together with the other Directors, has been actively involved in providing advice to the Department of Finance and the Department of Finance and Personnel in relation to future EU funding, including an extension to the PEACE II Programme.

2.4.3 2004 was an important year for the SEUPB and for both the PEACE II and INTERREG IIIA Programmes.

2.4.4 On 18 June 2004, at the request of the Prime Minister and the Taoiseach, the European Council asked the European Commission to examine the possibility of extending the PEACE II Programme for two years to 2006 to bring it into line with other Structural Fund programmes. Significant progress was made during 2004. For its part, the SEUPB carried out an extensive public consultation as to the nature of the activity to be funded and the delivery structures to be adopted in the extension. to the programme.

2.4.5 Both Programmes were set challenging financial targets for 2004; for INTERREG IIIA it was the first year that the Programme was required to meet spend requirements, commonly known as N+2. It was necessary for the Programme to spend €44.5m by the end of 2004, in fact, the Programme exceeded this target by €3m. PEACE II was required to meet its second N+2 target, a figure of €366.4m. This target was achieved and was exceeded by nearly €54m. In addition, by the end of 2004, PEACE II had committed some 97% of the Programme funds.

2.4.6 By the end of the year the INTERREG IIIA Programme had held 15 Steering Committee meetings and had approved 220 projects, covering a diverse range of themes, with a total value of €145m. An example of the high profile nature of these projects is the Cross Border Waste Awareness media campaign featuring garden designer, Diarmuid Gavin.

2.4.7 In 2004 the SEUPB continued building relationships with other countries and Managing Authorities, particularly those in the new accession countries. The PEACE II Director visited both Poland and Hungary to share experience and expertise and the other Directors within the SEUPB hosted study groups, including civil servants from Malta, Poland, the Middle East and Latvia.

2.4.8 In September 2004 the SEUPB was involved in an Open Days event in Brussels, as part of an initiative by the Committee of the Regions and European Commission's Directorate General for Regional Policy. Two public presentations were made highlighting the impact that both PEACE II and INTERREG IIIA have had in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. This event showcased how these programmes have contributed to both peace and reconciliation at the project level, and in redressing the problems that arise for people living in border regions.

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

## Language Sector

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

### Functions/Objectives

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

2.5.2 The Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge, and the Chairperson of Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch, are joint Chairpersons of the Language Body. Mairéad Uí Mháirtín is Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge. James Devenney is acting chairperson of Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch. The Body has a Board of 24 members appointed by the NSMC. A list of Board Members and their agencies is at Annex 5.



### Foras Na Gaeilge

#### Functions/Objectives

2.5.3 Through Foras na Gaeilge the Body has responsibility for the promotion of the Irish language on an all-island basis.

2.5.4 As well as taking over the functions of Bord na Gaeilge, the Agency was given a wide range of functions to add to its effectiveness in promoting Irish. For example in the area of education, dictionaries and terminology, it assumed responsibility for the Terminology Committee and took over the functions of An Gúm.

2.5.5 Maighr ad U  Mh irtin is Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge and there are 15 other members on the Board (see Annex 5). The Chief Executive is Mr Seosamh Mac Donncha.

#### Activities

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

- Core-funding of 17 Irish language and educational organisations North and South, as well as substantive localised projects and minor ventures.
- Creation, implementation and assessment of the three-year community support Scheme, Sc im Phobail Gaeilge 2005-2007.
- An Foras provided sponsorship for many projects including, The All-Ireland Camogie Final in Croke Park, F ile an Phobal in Belfast and Ros na R n on TG4.
- Foras na Gaeilge advertised two new schemes: (i) the production of a weekly Irish language all-island newspaper, Sc im Nuacht n Seachtaini il Gaeilge 2004-2008, and (ii) production of an all-island Irish language magazine, Sc im Iris Ghaeilge 2005 -2007.
- The Foras na Gaeilge newly designed website, [www.gaeilge.ie](http://www.gaeilge.ie) was developed during the year and was officially launched in September.
- Over 300 arts-related projects, ranging from publications to film-making, drama companies to arts festivals, the traditional arts to mime and puppetry, sean-n s singing to the visual arts, were supported and sponsored.
- Over 25 translation agencies and projects relating to the development of software, websites and terminology were grant-aided.

- In partnership with Tha Boord of Ulster-Scotch, an Foras co-sponsored a series of events organised by Cult ir Uladh..
- Excellence Ireland, published by Excellence Publications, was formally presented to An Taoiseach by the publisher in June 2004.
- Voces Diversae - International Conference on teaching minority languages.
- The Conference took place between 22-24 April 2004. More than 100 representatives from throughout the world, some from the new EU countries, attended the conference.
- In partnership with the Department of Education in Northern Ireland, funding has been provided to employ an officer in the CCEA to adapt the enriched curriculum making it suitable for the Irish-medium sector.
- Funding was provided for the Palace Stables in Armagh to translate a nature trail and related materials for the use of Irish-medium schools.
- Foras na Gaeilge, in partnership with Iontaobhas na Gaelscola ochta has established a training fund to help the Pre-school workers in Northern Ireland improve their Irish.
- Provision of funding continued, in partnership with the Department of Education in Northern Ireland, for Comhairle na Gaelscola ochta to help implement their Strategic Development Plan.
- Funding continued to be provided for an t isaonad, which is based in St Mary's University College, to provide resources for the Irish-medium sector in Northern Ireland.
- Over 60 publications produced, including printed and digital material, in the areas of primary and post-primary textbooks.

- A range of integrated course materials for Senior Infants produced as part of the primary school initiative, S ide n S .
- Terminology CD with search facility produced containing dictionaries of terms fully authorised by An Coiste T arma ochta encompassing nine specialised areas of knowledge.

- Phase One of the English-Irish Dictionary Project brought to conclusion and work begun on tendering process for Phase Two.
- Over 3,500 terminological inquiries were dealt with, and some 1,450 new terms or terminological phrases were sanctioned and published in the monthly journal, Comhar.

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





James Fenton, poet and author, is the acknowledged 'voice' of the Ulster-Scots language which he calls the 'hamely tongue'. He stands amid the backdrop of Slemish mountain in County Antrim which features in much of his poetry.

## Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch

### The Ulster-Scots Agency

#### Functions/Objectives

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

#### Activities

2.5.9 The Lord Laird of Artigarvan was the Chairman of the Agency until his resignation on 23rd April 2004. Jim Devenney, an existing Board member, became acting Chairman for the remainder of the year. There are 6 other members on the Board of the Body (see Annex 5) who along with the Chairperson have responsibility for the functions of the Body through Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch. The Chief Executive of the Agency is Mr George Patton.

2.5.10 The 2004 Business Plan for Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch is aligned with its Corporate Plan 2002-04 and is

designed to fulfil the Agency's Mission Statement "to promote the study, conservation, development and use of Ulster-Scots as a living language, to encourage and develop the full range of its culture and to promote an understanding of the history of Ulster-Scots". To this end, the Agency takes advantage of opportunities to promote the Ulster-Scots language, culture and history.

2.5.11 The Agency continues to focus on four strategic themes:-

- Linguistic Development;
- Culture;
- Education;
- Public Understanding of Ulster-Scots.

2.5.12 The Business Plan defines the programme of work that translates these themes into action and outlines the resources, objectives, services, targets and outcomes.

2.5.13 In 2004 work continued on the Primary, Secondary and Adult Language Project material. This year also saw the establishment of the Ulster-Scots Curriculum Development Unit at Stranmillis and the Agency provided financial support for this Unit's Research Officer.

2.5.14 The Agency continues to fulfil its remit in providing financial support through its grants scheme to a wide range of community groups who engage in Ulster-Scots activities. In 2004 the Agency offered a total of 200 grants to 133 groups totalling £664k. The Agency also provided financial support through its sponsorship scheme to the Eagle's Wing Production and the Maiden City Festival.

2.5.15 The production and development of the Ulster-Scots newspaper and the continued provision of leaflets on people and events in Ulster-Scots history has positively impacted on the Agency's strategic plan for raising public awareness.

2.5.16 Throughout 2004 the Agency continued to provide funding for the Institute of Ulster-Scots Studies at the University of Ulster and the Ulster-Scots Heritage Council.

2.5.17 The Agency employed a Development Officer for the West of the Province during 2004 and in welcoming this development, tribute must also be paid to all the staff who have ensured that the Agency continued to develop its policies, procedures and services.

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



## Inland Waterways Sector



Special Olympics Canoe Challenge on the Lower Bann

### Waterways Ireland

#### Functions/Objectives

2.6.1 Waterways Ireland's primary function is the management, maintenance, development and restoration of specified inland navigable waterway systems throughout the island, principally for recreational purposes. Waterways Ireland is responsible for the navigation systems detailed in paragraph 2.6.2, which were previously under the respective control of the Department of Community, Rural, and Gaeltacht Affairs in the South and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland.

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

2.6.3 Waterways Ireland is also charged with taking forward further studies and appraisals in relation to the possible restoration of the Ulster Canal.

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

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

#### Activities

2.6.6 The Waterways Ireland Marketing and Promotion Strategy was launched in June 2004 by Minister Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D. The Strategy, which represents the culmination of a two year formulation, research and consultative process, recommends a pro active role for Waterways Ireland with the objectives of:

- Awareness creation;
- Development of a Waterways Ireland brand;
- Promoting greater user of the waterways;
- Building partnerships with other bodies; and
- Building a platform of sustained market development.

2.6.7 While the official launch of the Strategy took place in June, implementation of the various tactics outlined in it began in January. For example, baseline market research into the profile and activities of waterway users was undertaken in the summer of 2004, a series of press familiarisation visits were facilitated on the waterways, a programme of sponsorship of waterway related events was initiated, an information programme with the distribution of promotional material to some 8,000 waterway users was completed, various trade and consumer fairs were attended, joint promotional activities were undertaken, and a number of additional publications including a hospitality guide and good boating guide were produced.

2.6.8 In 2004, Waterways Ireland began the implementation of its Strategy for Enhanced Customer Service, which inter-alia, commits the organisation to service excellence and demands that each customer is treated with courtesy and respect. Furthermore detailed Codes of Practice for Quality Customer Care and Procedures for Handling Customer Complaints were developed with Customer Services training for all staff also introduced in 2004.

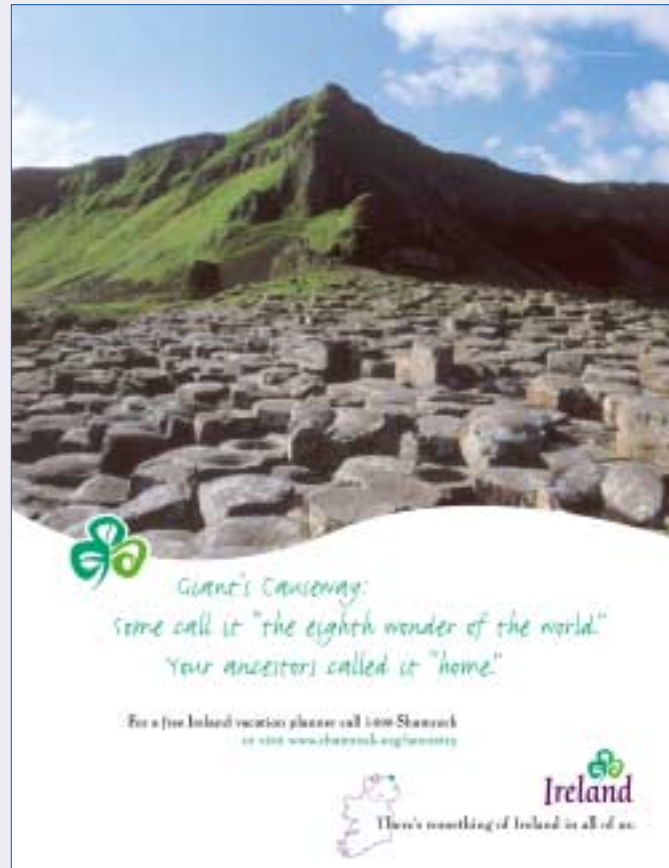
2.6.9 From an Operational point of view, 2004 was a very successful and busy year with a myriad of development projects being completed on the 7 navigations under the remit of Waterways Ireland. In addition, planning and design

of projects for 2005 was significantly advanced with contracts for the construction of a number of bridges placed and detailed designs for new moorings and facilities completed. The following are a number of examples of the works undertaken by Waterways Ireland in 2004:

- On the **Lower Bann Navigation**, the navigational infrastructure and channel markers were maintained and upgraded.
- On the **Erne System** works commenced on replacing old jetties with new floating jetties at 5 locations in Co. Fermanagh at a cost of approximately STGE615,000.
- Bank protection works and a new access road were completed at Mullanway in Co Cavan, on the **Shannon - Erne Waterway** while works were commenced to construct a new landing jetty at Lock 4.
- Major works were completed on the **Shannon Navigation**. At Ballyleague, in Co Roscommon a €1.5m development provided additional floating moorings for approximately 32 vessels adding services for boat users such as power and water supplies, and pump out facilities. Major developments were also completed at Scarriff Harbour in Co. Clare, while developments at Garrykennedy, Co. Tipperary and Cleighran More, Co. Leitrim were commenced and significantly advanced.
- New secure moorings in the **Grand Canal** Basin, at Ringsend in Dublin, were installed and provide berthing facilities for up to 55 vessels. At a cost of approximately €600,000, it is anticipated that these new facilities will rejuvenate the waterways of Dublin.
- Significant works have been completed on the **Royal Canal**, as part of its re-construction. Contracts for the construction of Webb's Bridge, Abbeyshrule and the Bord na Mona Bridges were awarded following approval of their planning and design.

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

## Tourism Sector



### Tourism Ireland

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

### Activities

2.7.2 The year was one of mixed fortunes for the tourism sector. The targeted number of visitors to the island for the year was 7.8 million and the estimated outturn for 2004 will be 7.6 million. Many of the underlying trends in consumer travel behaviour which had remained masked by the global external shocks of recent years such as the Foot & Mouth epidemic, the horrific events of September 11th, the war in Iraq and SARS, manifest themselves clearly in 2004. The consumer's preference for shorter, more frequent breaks instead of traditional holidays, the shift to low cost air travel and away from sea, the preference for urban rather than

rural stays and the universal search for value and 'special offers' all came to the fore during the course of the year.

2.7.3 Despite this, the island of Ireland performed better in tourism terms than many of its main competitor destinations. While a number of strategic issues affecting the future of tourism to the island of Ireland were identified in 2004, Action Plans are being put in place to consolidate where the island is performing strongly and address issues which might impact on our future performance.

2.7.4 The GB market accounts for 63% of the visitors to the island and is expected to be static for 2004. The North American and New and Developing markets are expected to grow by 8% and 22% respectively. Mainland Europe is expected to show growth in the region of 4% mainly due to the emerging star markets of Spain and Italy.

2.7.5 The challenge of securing growth from key markets was foreseen during the year. As a result Tourism Ireland in conjunction with the industry on the island of Ireland and in the markets undertook major, strategic reviews of both the Great Britain and European markets to assess changes in consumer holiday-taking patterns and needs and identify the responses needed.

2.7.6 In 2004 Northern Ireland saw record numbers of overseas visitors and holidaymakers. Tourism Ireland will continue to support Northern Ireland to reach its potential to build on the success achieved in recent years. This commitment is reflected throughout our programme of marketing operations and through a programme of specific promotions undertaken for Northern Ireland, many in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Tourist Board.

2.7.7 In 2004 Tourism Ireland spent a total of €55/£38 million on marketing the island of Ireland overseas. Using the marketing tools available, Tourism Ireland's 17 overseas market offices undertook a wide range of above and below the line marketing activities, tailored to suit each market.

2.7.8 Above the line activity included a global advertising campaign, incorporating television, print and radio, outdoor and on-line media; while below the line activity included direct marketing campaigns, on-the-ground promotions to key trade and consumers at holiday and special interest exhibitions and familiarisation trips for international tour operators. There was also an extensive publicity campaign which brought journalists from all over the world to the island of Ireland so they could sample the benefits of a holiday on the island of Ireland for themselves.

2.7.9 Specific examples of our marketing activity in 2004 include the following

- Tourism Ireland GB this year organised 350 journalists' visits, participated in 54 trade and consumer shows.
- 2.5 million Market books (14 editions in 10 languages) were printed with editions in Chinese and Hebrew for the first time.
- 155,677 calls and 154,942 emails were handled by our Contact Centre.
- 2,000+ travel agents participated in Ireland's on-line learning programme in the Netherlands, while 5,000 people visited a dedicated Ireland consumer fair.
- 12,000 overseas consumers in our top markets were interviewed during the course of our many research programmes.
- Tourism Ireland commissioned the largest qualitative research programme into the GB market ever undertaken on behalf of the Ireland tourism industry.

2.7.10 Tourism Ireland continued to focus the bulk of its resources on Great Britain, USA, France and Germany. In addition to core marketing activities Tourism Ireland also identified new segments within these markets using a new, needs-based segmentation approach.



**2.7.11** Following a competitive process JWT/Mindshare were selected to handle Tourism Irelands advertising and marketing communications requirements for the four years commencing 2006. In 2005 they will work with Tourism Ireland to develop a brand new advertising and marketing communications programme to reflect and respond to changes in consumer holiday-taking patterns and needs.

**2.7.12** Our new Nordic head office in Copenhagen was opened by Minister O Donoghue in October and our new state of the art Marketing and Technology support centre was opened in Coleraine.

**2.7.13** A new corporate plan 2005-2007 was prepared in which Tourism Ireland has set out ambitious plans and targets aiming to increase all-island visitor numbers by 5.1% in 2005.

**2.7.14** A new e-marketing unit was set up to ensure the island of Ireland is an online market leader with a world class consumer focused website and e-marketing capability.

**2.7.15** Tourism Ireland continued its extensive work with airport authorities, carriers and agencies such as Air Route Development Northern Ireland, and others, to attract and support vital new air services to the island of Ireland. 2004 recorded major expansion in air access to the island from Great Britain, mainland Europe and from North America. Tourism Ireland's Air Access Development Marketing Fund provided cooperative marketing support in our source markets for many of the new services. A manager was appointed with responsibility for Access Development.

**2.7.16** Tourism Ireland also continued its work to encourage more visitors to travel by car ferry. A new Car Touring brochure was launched in the Great Britain market and this activity will be developed significantly in 2005. Research shows that visitors who travel to the island of Ireland with their own cars tend to stay longer, have a higher level of spend and are more inclined to tour and see more of the destination.

**2.7.17** An organisational review was undertaken to ensure that Tourism Ireland is fit for purpose moving into the future.

**2.7.18** Going forward into 2005, Tourism Ireland will continue to work with the industry to improve distribution of the island of Ireland tourism product to potential consumers through traditional and new online channels.

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

## Education Sector

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

### Activities

#### North/South Exchange Consortium

**2.8.2** During 2004 this Consortium commissioned 2 major pieces of research to ascertain current North/South exchange activity and to identify gaps and obstacles in such provision. Draft research reports were finalised at the year-end with an anticipated publication date of Spring 2005. A Consortium Manager was also appointed.

#### Middletown Centre for Autism

**2.8.3** In June 2004 Middletown Centre for Autism (Holdings) Ltd was set up by the Department of Education and Science (DES) and the Department of the Education (DE) to purchase the former St Joseph's Adolescent Training Centre in Middletown on behalf of both Departments. The two Ministers marked this purchase at the official launch of the Centre on 14 September 2004. Ongoing consideration is being given to major site refurbishment and arrangements for the day to day running and organisational structure of the centre.

#### Dyslexia Resources

**2.8.4** A CD/DVD ROM and video, similar to those produced for parents and teachers on Autism, have been developed in regard to Dyslexia and issued to schools in the autumn of 2004.

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

**2.8.5** This Programme will enable education professionals from Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland, to participate in exchanges based on the themes of Autism, Dyslexia and the inclusion of marginalised youth.

#### Teachers Superannuation

**2.8.6** The joint North/South Working Group on teacher's superannuation continued with its considerations but in the absence of the wider Pension Forum practical progress is somewhat limited.

#### Teacher Qualifications

**2.8.7** Latest discussions have focused on the need for teachers who move to the South to study for and undertake a written examination on the History and Structure of the Irish Education System. The Registration Council in the South is considering the issue and the way forward will be considered at the next meeting of the Group.

#### Literacy / Numeracy Working Group

**2.8.8** Ongoing areas of co-operation include:

- DE sharing materials for teachers of mathematics with DES colleagues;
- the undertaking of a joint research project on children's' reading habits;
- the Belfast Education and Library Board provided colleagues in DES with a copy of an evaluation of the Enriched Curriculum pilot project; and
- DES colleagues were invited to participate in an RTU 2004 summer school mathematics course.

### EU Peace II Programme

2.8.9 Measure 5.5 of the PEACE 2 Programme, with a total allocation of €5 million, is fully committed and has supported 14 cross-border projects.

### Pupil Attendance / Retention Working Group

2.8.10 The three main areas for development work are: -

- Home/School/Community Liaison Scheme (HSCL) - this scheme to support parents and pupils in areas of disadvantage was developed in the South and is now being piloted in 2 Education and Library Board areas in the North;

- Promoting Attendance in Primary Schools - a pack of materials for use in primary schools in both jurisdictions is being developed; and
- Co-operation between the National Educational Welfare Board in the South and Education Welfare Service in the North in areas of mutual interest will be explored as the Board becomes more established.

## Agriculture Sector

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

### Activities

2.9.2 During 2004 the Agriculture Departments have progressed the development of an All-Island Animal Health and Welfare Strategy. This involves the convergence of animal health and welfare policies North and South and the development of joint strategies for dealing with animal diseases. During 2004 the Ministers met and noted progress and asked that the views of stakeholders be obtained as the All-Island Strategy was developed.

- Work of the nine policy working groups continues to take forward various initiatives. The main achievements to date include the development of complementary approaches towards preventing the introduction of animal disease, the convergence of policies on Scrapie, and the strengthening of co-ordination and co-operation on issues such as contingency planning, BSE and cross-Border fraud. Ongoing work continues on a wide range of other issues including animal identification and traceability, disease surveillance, animal welfare, the alignment of disease testing programmes and bio-security.
- During 2004, two meetings (June and November) of the Department of Agriculture and Food (DAF) / Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) Plant Health Liaison Group took place. Discussions centred around various plant pests and diseases such as *Phytophthora ramorum* (Sudden Oak Death), Potato Ring Rot, Fireblight and *Diabrotica* (Western Corn Rootworm), the extent of these in the two jurisdictions and the arrangements in place to safeguard against them. There was common agreement on the need for close co-operation in the prevention/control/eradication of specific diseases/pests, particularly Sudden Oak Death and Western Corn Rootworm.

- Plant research was identified as a key area for co-operation as plant health co-ordination and control on an all-island basis is of vital importance and mutual benefit.
- The Liaison Group agreed to establish a sub-group comprising of relevant officials from DAF and DARD to discuss issues surrounding a common approach to Plant Health Surveys.
- There was also an exchange of the DARD Contingency Plan for Serious Pest / Plant Health Incidents and the DAF Emergency Plans for Ring Rot and Brown Rot.
- Liaison also took place on issues connected with CAP Reform and renewable energy.

### Steering Committee On Cross Border Rural Development (SCCBRD).

2.9.3 The Steering Committee on Cross-Border Rural Development (SCCBRD) comprising representatives from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) in Northern Ireland, the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (DCRGA), Ireland, the NSMC Joint Secretariat and the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) last met on 5 October 2004.

*The Committee reviewed progress on a range of cross border EU Measures including:*

- **INTERREG IIIA - RURAL INITIATIVE** The Rural Measure opened for applications for a 3-month period in Autumn 2003 and 18 applications were received. It is expected that the Measure will re-open for applications in early 2005.
- **PEACE II - MEASURE 5.6A (Agriculture and Rural Development Co-operation: Cross Border Community Development)** An application from the North South Rural Voice [Rural Community Network in Northern Ireland and the Irish Rural Link (Ireland)] was approved by the Steering Committee last year. Based in Carrickmacross, County Monaghan the



## Environment Sector

**2.10.1** The aspects of North/South co-operation in Environment that were agreed for initial consideration by the NSMC include water quality management, waste management in a cross-border context, research into environmental protection, environmental databases, environmental impact of agriculture, and information exchange and environmental awareness.

### Activities

**2.10.2** During 2004 progress was maintained in taking forward the previously mandated work programme of the NSMC on a range of environmental issues:

- Co-ordination work North and South was on-going during 2004 on the first stages of implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) and in particular in relation to the development of common typology, monitoring and classification systems to facilitate the reporting and monitoring required under the Directive.
- Work commenced in August 2004 on a North South project (N/S SHARE), promoted by the North South Working Group on Water Quality, the objective of which is to strengthen inter-regional capacity for environmental monitoring and management, to improve public awareness and participation in water management issues and to develop a number of river basin management strategies for cross border waters based on best practice in river basin management planning. The estimated cost of the project, which is supported by the EU INTEREEG IIIA Programme, is €7.5m (£5.1m).
- The Department of the Environment (DOE) in Northern Ireland and the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) in the South held WFD stakeholder information seminars during the year. Officials from both parts of the island attended and participated.

project is now staffed and is processing applications from border communities to work in partnership to improve community capacity and infrastructures/capacity.

- **PEACE II - MEASURE 5.6B (Cross Border Diversification Projects)** This Measure aims to secure cross border and cross community reconciliation and social inclusion as well as enhancing the rural economy through the development of agricultural diversification projects on a cross border basis. There have been two successful applications from a first call for applications.

- **LEADER +** Under Action 2 (Transnational) it is anticipated that all 12 Northern Ireland Leader Action Groups (LAG's) will enter into co-operative projects with similar organisations in Ireland.
- **CROSS BORDER STUDIES.** The Steering Committee in support of its work commissioned two studies in 2001 in relation to co-operation between cross border rural communities and cross border education, training and research in rural development. This work is ongoing.

- Work continued on developing an all-island strategic approach to market development for recyclable material. A new study intended to determine the feasibility of establishing a paper mill on the island of Ireland has been initiated. Led by the North South Market Development Steering Group and funded jointly by DOE through WRAP (the Waste and Resources Action Programme) and DEHLG, the study will assess the strategic contribution which a new paper mill could make to delivering a dynamic and healthy recycled paper market.
- An all-island contract for the management of waste fridges and fridge freezers was launched by Ministers in April 2004. Since its introduction, some 100,000 units have been collected throughout the island and sent for recycling. 32 local authorities in the South and 26 district councils in the North are participating in the scheme. The service includes an innovative tagging system to ensure that a secure invoicing/audit trail is in place. This aspect will be of considerable interest in developing systems for the implementation of the EU Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, which will come into effect on 13 August 2005. In November 2004 the contract won a prestigious award at the UK-wide National Recycling Awards under the category Best Partnership Project for Recycling.
- Work continued on developing opportunities for information exchange and raising environmental awareness in areas of common interest. The work includes the production or revision of a range of environmental literature, shared use of exhibition material, staff exchange, and attendances at network meetings to facilitate communication and sharing of best practice.

## Health Sector

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

### Activities

**2.11.2** Progress was made on the designated areas of the health co-operation agenda during 2004.

**2.11.3** Under **Accident and Emergency Services** consideration is still focussed on the subjects of local cross-border collaboration covering hospitals in the border areas and wider co-operation on a regional or supra-regional basis, covering specialist services which are, or could only be, viable where delivered on an all-island basis.

**2.11.4** CAWT, the cross-border health board initiative, continues to project manage a number of initiatives in these areas.

**2.11.5** Another joint initiative occurred in September when the North Western Health Board and the Western Health and Social Services Board co-operated to facilitate the introduction of an Oral and Maxillo Facial surgery service to be based at Altnagelvin Hospital. The initiative facilitates the integrated provision of a day-case and out-patient service across the two health board areas.

**2.11.6** In the matter of **Planning for Major Emergencies**, the Health Departments have commissioned CAWT to undertake three projects covering a cross-border "First Responder" scheme (CPR and basic first aid training for communities); the establishment of emergency planning fora (to integrate planning, develop networks and joint training and co-ordinate exercises); and the development of major incident plans. Commenced in 2004, these are to be completed in 2006.

**2.11.7** A report was published of a feasibility study, commissioned in 2002, on the costs and benefits of an all-island Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS). The report concluded that the most appropriate role for HEMS in an all-island context may be the rapid inter-hospital transfer of the critically ill escorted by appropriately skilled and trained medical professionals. The cost of introducing one helicopter, for the service was estimated by the Consultants at €12m in capital, with annual operating costs of over €4.0m.

**2.11.8** The report received careful consideration by the two Health Departments. Both Departments agreed that the study would make an important contribution to the debate on the future development of pre-hospital emergency care North and South. In the meantime, the strategic priority over the next few years will be to improve emergency ambulance response times to life-threatening calls, including in isolated rural communities.

**2.11.9** Consideration of the development of a Road Traffic Accident Mobilisation and Response Strategy for fire brigades in border areas and the further development of combined community fire prevention awareness and education programmes continued during the year.

**2.11.10** In the area of **High Technology Equipment**, the objective is the assessment of the economic and treatment benefits, on an all island basis, of new and emerging high technologies with a view to achieving optimal patient care. Areas identified for future co-operation include new initiatives around population screening, immunology, genetics and the Unique Patient Client Identifier Project.

**2.11.11** In **Cancer Research**, action continued in the context of the Consortium established in 1999 to help develop cancer services, but particularly to enhance the research output of the cancer academic community in Ireland North and South.

**2.11.12** As 2004 marked the fifth year of operation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that established the Consortium, a review of the MoU was undertaken. The

Board of Directors agreed in December that the Consortium, involving the National Cancer Institute, USA and the Health Departments North and South had been very successful and recommended that the MoU should be renewed for another five years. Political endorsement of the arrangement was conveyed by the Tánaiste/Minister for Health and the Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

**2.11.13** Achievements to date from the collaboration have been recorded in clinical trials, establishment of an all-island Cancer Network, publication of all-island Cancer Statistics Reports by the Cancer Registries, North and South, epidemiological research fellowships, Scholar and Nursing Exchange programmes and all-island Cancer prevention workshops.

**2.11.14** Health Promotion continues to be a highly proactive area of joint co-operation and joint action. Three conferences took place involving joint collaboration and a further four were scheduled up to May 2005. The subject themes for the conferences were men's health, workplace health and physical activity (obesity).

**2.11.15** Developmental actions continued, building on the work of the previous year on the themes of physical activity, research, health promoting hospitals, training and workplace health promotion. Three additional subjects for joint working came onto the agenda in 2004:- men's health, breastfeeding and mental health promotion.

## Transport Sector

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

### Activities

2.12.2 A wide range of transport issues continued to be the subject of discussion and cooperation between Ministers and between senior officials North and South.

2.12.3 On 20 September, John Spellar, Minister at the Northern Ireland Office with responsibility for transport, met the Irish Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Mary Coughlan T.D., to discuss issues concerning concessionary fares on public transport. There are different concessionary fares schemes operating in the two jurisdictions and officials have met to ensure that cross-border travel can be facilitated and carriers properly reimbursed.

2.12.4 Also in September, the Permanent Secretary of the Northern Ireland Department for Regional Development (DRD) met his counterpart in the Irish Department of Transport to discuss issues of mutual concern in relation to roads, railways and airports.

2.12.5 The Roads Service of DRD held regular meetings with their counterparts in the National Roads Authority (NRA) and officials from the Department of the Environment and Local Government (DOELG) through a Cross Border Steering Group. Discussions included the major works programmes in both jurisdictions (including significant individual projects) and the INSTANT project (Information and Management System for Multimodal Transport in Northern Ireland and in Ireland).

2.12.6 Roads Service and Road Safety officials from the Department of the Environment (DOE) held a series of meetings throughout 2004 with the Department of Transport and NRA regarding the introduction of metric speed limits in the Republic of Ireland on 20 January 2005. These meetings focused on signage issues at border road crossings and safety implications for road users traveling north and south.

2.12.7 There also continued to be a range of contacts between DOE and the National Safety Council to co-ordinate joint road safety campaigns/messages.

2.12.8 DOE and DRD were represented on the first Steering Group meeting of the "Steering to Safety" project of the Co-operation and Working Together (CAWT) initiative. The project is supported by EU INTERREG IIIA funding and aims to reduce the number of road traffic collisions and resulting injuries in the CAWT area, ie the whole of the land boundary between the North and South covered by the North Eastern Health Board and North West Health Board in the South and the Western Health and Social Services Board and Southern Health and Social Services Board in the North.

2.12.9 Further to meetings with the Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN), funding was received under the Peace II programme and the INTERREG IIIA Community Initiative to carry out a number of minor road improvements in the border region during the past year.

2.12.10 During the year, officials of DRD and the Department of Transport continued to cooperate on issues concerning the City of Derry Airport, and officials from the Department of Transport contributed to the steering group set up by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland to consider the airport's future funding requirements.

2.12.11 Senior officials of DRD and the Irish Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources met to consider issues relating to the provision of navigational aids in Carlingford Lough and capacity in ports on the island of Ireland.

2.12.12 Contact on railway issues continued, specifically dealing with rail safety, the impact of European directives and cross-border operations. DRD hosted two seminars involving Northern Ireland Railways, Iarnród Éireann and the Department for Transport to consider the implications of legislative proposals under consideration.





Under the Interim procedures in place the following decisions were taken in 2004.

#### Trade and Business Development Sector

- **Approved** on 17 June, the determination of InterTradeIreland in respect of the remuneration and other conditions of service and the assimilation arrangements of the Chief Executive.
- **Approved** on 9 August, (i) the determinations made by InterTradeIreland; and (ii) that the relevant Sponsor Departments, the Department for Enterprise Trade and Employment and the Department of Enterprise Trade and Investment, may approve determinations of starting salaries for staff recruited to InterTradeIreland other than the Chief Executive within the defined framework; and that Sponsor Departments may permit InterTradeIreland to make such determinations without that approval if they (the Departments) are content to do so.
- **Noted** on 1 September, InterTradeIreland's Annual Report and Accounts for 2003.
- **Approved** on 2 November, the InterTradeIreland Corporate Plan for 2005-2007, **noted** the outline Business Plan for 2005; **recommended** the budget provision for InterTradeIreland for 2005, including the respective Northern Ireland and Southern contributions; and **noted** the projected total budgets for 2006 and 2007.

#### Food Safety Sector

- **Noted** on 30 March, the Food Safety Promotion Board's Annual Report 2002 incorporating Financial Statements to December 2001.
- **Approved** on 22 June, the determination of the Food Safety Promotion Board in respect of the remuneration and other conditions of service and the assimilation arrangements of the Chief Executive.

- **Approved** on 16 July, (i) the determinations made by the Food Safety Promotion Board; and (ii) that the relevant Sponsor Departments, the Department of Health and Children and the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, may approve determinations of starting salaries for staff recruited to the Food Safety Promotion Board other than the Chief Executive within the defined framework; and that Sponsor Departments may permit the Food Safety Promotion Board to make such determinations without that approval if they (the Departments) are content to do so.
- **Approved** on 22 November, the Corporate Plan for 2005-2007 and Business Plan for 2005; **recommended** the budget provision for 2005, including the respective Northern Ireland and Southern contributions; **noted** the projected total budgets for 2006-2007; and **approved** the Business Plan for 2003.

#### Aquaculture and Marine Sector

- **Approved** on 4 January, the Loughs Agency's Business Plan for 2004; **recommended** on 4 January, the budget provision for the Loughs Agency as set out in the table for 2004, including the respective North Ireland and Southern contributions; and **noted** the projected total budgets for 2005-2006.
- **Approved** on 2 February, the Corporate Plan for 2003-2005 and the Loughs Agency's Business Plan for 2003.
- **Approved** on 13 February, the Foyle Area and Carlingford Area (Angling) (Amendment) Regulations 2004; and **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to the North/South Ministerial Council to sign and approve on their behalf.
- **Approved** on 22 March, the Foyle Area (Control of Drift and Draft Net Fishing) Regulations 2004 and **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to the North/South Ministerial Council to sign and approve on their behalf.

- **Approved** on 26 June, the determination of the Foyle Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission in respect of the remuneration and other conditions of service and the assimilation arrangements of the Chief Executive.
- **Approved** on 1 September, the Foyle Area and Carlingford Area (Close Seasons for Angling) (Amendment) Regulations 2004; and **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to the North/South Ministerial Council to sign and approve on their behalf.
- **Approved** on 20 September, (i) the determinations made by the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission in respect of the Loughs Agency; and (ii) that the relevant Sponsor Departments, the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, may approve determinations of starting salaries for staff recruited to the Loughs Agency other than the Chief Executive within the defined framework; and that Sponsor Departments may permit the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission to make such determinations in respect of the Loughs Agency without that approval if they (the Departments) are content to do so.
- **Approved** on 18 October, the Loughs Agency's Corporate Plan for 2005-2007 and Business Plan for 2005; **recommended** the budget provision for the Loughs Agency for 2005, including the respective Northern Ireland and Southern contributions; and **noted** the projected total budgets for 2006-2007.
- **Approved** on 17 December, the Foyle Area and Carlingford Area (Licensing of Fishing Engines) (Amendment) Regulations 2004; and **authorised** the Joint Secretaries to the North/South Ministerial Council to sign and approve on their behalf.

#### Special EU Programme Sector

- **Approved** on 27 April, the remuneration and other conditions of service and the assimilation arrangements that shall apply to the Chief Executive of the SEUPB, in accordance with the requirement of the Implementation Bodies Agreement, Annex 2, part 7, paragraph 3.2.
- **Agreed** on 16 June, that the preferred candidate, Mr Pat Colgan, was acceptable for appointment to the post of Chief Executive of the Special EU Programmes Body.
- **Approved** on 5 July, the formal appointment of Mr Pat Colgan as CEO of the SEUPB on the terms and conditions as specified in the contract document and **agreed** that the draft press release announcing this appointment can be issued.
- **Approved** on 12 October, the INTERREG IIIA Programme Complement.
- **Approved** on 18 October, the SEUPB Business Plan for 2005 and Corporate Plan 2005-2007; **recommended** the budget provision for the SEUPB in the table for 2005, including the respective contributions North and South; and **noted** the projected total budgets for 2006 and 2007.
- **Approved** on 25 October, (i) the determinations made by the Special EU Programmes Body; and (ii) that the relevant Sponsor Departments, the Department of Finance and the Department of Finance and Personnel, may approve determinations of starting salaries for staff recruited to the Special EU Programmes Body other than the Chief Executive within the defined framework; and that Sponsor Departments may permit the Special EU Programmes Body to make such determinations without that approval if they (the Departments) are content to do so.
- **Noted** on 29 October, the SEUPB Annual Report and Accounts for 2003.

#### Language Sector

- **Approved** on 26 February, the Business Plans for Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch in accordance with the amounts agreed by the sponsor Departments; **recommended** the budget provision for the North/South Language Body in the table for 2004, including the respective contributions North and South; and **noted** the projected total budgets for 2005-2006.

#### Foras na Gaeilge

- **Approved** on 4 November, (i) the determinations made by the Language Body in respect of Foras na Gaeilge; and (ii) that the relevant Sponsor Departments, the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, may approve determinations of starting salaries for staff recruited to Foras na Gaeilge other than the Chief Executive within the defined framework; and that Sponsor Departments may permit the Language Body to make such determinations in respect of Foras na Gaeilge without that approval if they (the Departments) are content to do so.

#### Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch

- **Approved** on 23 June, the post of Youth and Community Development Officer, on a 1 year contract basis, with a possibility of extension of a maximum of two years subject to the continuation of funding from the Irish Youth Foundation, at a grading and salary scale equivalent to that of EO1 in the Northern Ireland Civil Service; and **approved** that any future general round increases to this scale shall be agreed between the relevant sponsoring Departments, North and South, with the approval of the Finance Departments and without further reference to the NSMC.
- **Approved** on 27 July, the determination of the Body (Ulster Scots Agency) in respect of the remuneration

and other conditions of service and the assimilation arrangements of the CEO.

- **Agreed** on 6 September, additional funding of £80,000 to meet outstanding claims incurred under the Ulster-Scots Agency financial assistance scheme.
- **Approved** on 25 October, (i) the determinations made by the Language Body in respect of the Ulster-Scots Agency; and (ii) that the relevant Sponsor Departments, the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, may approve determinations of starting salaries for staff recruited to the Ulster-Scots Agency other than the Chief Executive within the defined framework; and that Sponsor Departments may permit the Language Body to make such determinations in respect of the Ulster-Scots Agency without that approval if they (the Departments) are content to do so.
- Subject to the approval of Finance Ministers, **approved** on 9 November, the recruitment of the posts of Director of Language & Education and Director of Culture, each to be at a grading and salary scale equivalent to that of DP in the Northern Ireland Civil Service.
- **Approved** on 16 December, the Code of Conduct for Staff of the Ulster-Scots Agency.

#### Inland Waterways Sector

- **Approved** on 20 January, the Business Plan for 2003.
- **Noted** on 20 January, the Annual Report and Accounts for 2001.
- **Noted** on 20 January, the Annual Report and Accounts for 2002.
- **Approved** on 19 July, (i) the determinations made by Waterways Ireland; and (ii) that the relevant Sponsor Departments, the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, may approve determinations of

starting salaries for staff recruited to Waterways Ireland other than the Chief Executive within the defined framework; and that Sponsor Departments may permit Waterways Ireland to make such determinations without that approval if they (the Departments) are content to do so.

- **Approved** on 5 November, the Waterways Ireland Corporate Plan for 2005-2007 and Business Plan 2005; **recommended**, the budget provision for Waterways Ireland in the table for 2005, including the respective Northern Ireland and Southern contributions; and **noted** the projected total budgets for 2006-2007.
- **Consented** on 10 November, to the compulsory acquisition of the lands and buildings at Webb's Bridge, Abbeyshrule, County Longford.

#### Tourism Sector

- **Approved** on 17 June, the determination of Tourism Ireland in respect of the remuneration and other conditions of service of the Chief Executive of Tourism Ireland.
- **Approved** on 17 June, the allocation of an additional €2.7m / £1.9m from the Irish Government to Tourism Ireland's Marketing Programme for 2004; and **noted** that Tourism Ireland will in due course bring forward further marketing proposals for consideration in the context of the Northern Ireland budgetary cycle having regard to the agreed 2:1 split in the overall South:North contributions to the company's marketing programme.

- **Approved** on 16 July, (i) the determinations made by Tourism Ireland; and (ii) that the relevant Sponsor Departments, the Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism, and the Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment, may approve determinations of starting salaries for staff recruited to Tourism Ireland other than the Chief Executive within the defined framework; and that Sponsor Departments may permit Tourism Ireland to make such determinations without that approval if they (the Departments) are content to do so.
- **Noted** on 9 November, the Annual Report and Accounts for 2003.
- **Approved** on 19 December, (a) the requisite change in Article 39 of the Articles of Association as follows: The sentence "the first Board of Directors shall serve for a period of not less than four years" shall be changed to read "the first Board of Directors shall serve for a period not exceeding five years"; (b) to direct the Joint Secretaries to advise, in writing, the Company Secretary, of the consent to the change to Article 39; and (c) to extend the initial period of appointment of the first Board of Tourism Ireland Limited from four to five years, the decision to become effective when the approved change to Article 39 is made.





## The Joint Secretariat

### Background

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

### Staffing

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

### Functions

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

- arranging the schedule of Council meetings in different formats;
- securing prior political/Ministerial agreement to agendas for meetings of the Council;
- preparing or commissioning papers for meetings of

the Council, including in relation to its work programme;

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

In addition to the functions above the Joint Secretariat also co-ordinates the Interim Procedures process as outlined in paragraph 1.10 of this Report, and facilitates the development of arrangements within the North/South Bodies to deliver best practice in terms of corporate governance and accountability.

### Funding

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



**Financial Information**  
1 January 2004 - 31 December 2004

**Expenditure**

Total expenditure for the financial period 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004 amounted to £1,285,078/€1,891,860 and a breakdown of the main expenditure areas is set out opposite.

NSMC Expenditure - 1 January 2004 - 31 December 2004

Item	£	€
Salaries	952,271	1,401,910
Administration	288,043	424,050
Meetings/Conferences	30,571	45,006
Capital Expenditure	14,193	20,894
Total	£1,285,078	€1,891,860

## North/South Bodies Contact Details

### Waterways Ireland

#### Headquarters

20 Darling Street  
Enniskillen  
Co Fermanagh  
BT74 7EW

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**Fax:** (028) 6634 6237

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**Website:** [www.waterwaysireland.org](http://www.waterwaysireland.org)

#### Northern Region

Somerview House  
Old Dublin Road  
Carrick on Shannon  
Co Leitrim

**Tel:** (078) 50787

**Fax:** (078) 22866

#### Western Region

Market Square  
Scarriff  
Co Clare

**Tel:** (061) 922033

**Fax:** (061) 922036

#### Eastern Region

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**Fax:** (01) 8383647

**Email:** [info@waterwaysireland.com](mailto:info@waterwaysireland.com)

## Food Safety Promotion Board

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Eastgate  
Little Island  
Cork

**Tel:** (021) 230 4100

**Fax:** (021) 230 4111

**Email:** [info@safefoodonline.com](mailto:info@safefoodonline.com)

**Website:** [www.safefoodonline.com](http://www.safefoodonline.com)

Block B  
Abbey Court  
Lower Abbey Street  
Dublin 1

**Tel:** (01) 817 1317

**Fax:** (01) 4480699

## INTERTRADEIRELAND - The Trade and Business Development Body

#### InterTradeIreland

The Old Gasworks Business Park  
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Co Down  
BT34 2DE

**Tel:** (028) 3083 4100

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**Website:** [www.intertradeireland.com](http://www.intertradeireland.com)

## Special EU Programmes Body

#### EU House

6 Cromac Place  
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BT7 2JB

**Tel:** (028) 9026 6660

**Fax:** (028) 9026 6692

**Email:** [info@seupb.org](mailto:info@seupb.org)

**Website:** [www.seupb.org](http://www.seupb.org)

#### EU House

13 Kevlin Road  
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Co Tyrone  
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**Fax:** (028) 822 48427

**Email:** [omagh@seupb.org](mailto:omagh@seupb.org)

#### EU House

Castle Meadow Court  
Monaghan

**Tel:** (047) 77003

**Fax:** (047) 71258

**Email:** [interreg@seupb.ie](mailto:interreg@seupb.ie)

## The North/South Language Body

#### Foras Na Gaeilge

Foras na Gaeilge  
7 Cearnóg Mhuirfean  
Baile Átha Cliath 2

**Tel:** (01) 639 8400

**Fax:** (01) 639 8401

**E-mail:** [eolas@forasnagaeilge.ie](mailto:eolas@forasnagaeilge.ie)

**Website:** [www.forasnagaeilge.ie](http://www.forasnagaeilge.ie)

## Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch

#### Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch

Franklin House  
5th Floor  
10-12 Brunswick Street  
Belfast  
BT2 7GE

**Tel:** (028) 9023 1113

**Fax:** (028) 9023 1898

**Email:** [info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk](mailto:info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.ulsterscotsagency.com](http://www.ulsterscotsagency.com)

## Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission

#### Loughs Agency

22 Victoria Road  
Waterside  
Derry/Londonderry  
BT47 2AB

**Tel:** (028) 7134 2100

**Fax:** (028) 7134 2720

**Email:** [general@loughs-agency.org](mailto:general@loughs-agency.org)

**Website:** [www.loughs-agency.org](http://www.loughs-agency.org)

#### Teach Eolais

Old Quay Lane  
Carlingford  
Co Louth

**Tel:** (042) 9383888

**Fax:** (042) 9383888

**Email:** [carlingford@loughs-agency.org](mailto:carlingford@loughs-agency.org)





## Tourism Ireland

### **Tourism Ireland**

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

**Tel:** (01) 476 3400

**Fax:** (01) 476 3666

**Email:** [info@tourismireland.com](mailto:info@tourismireland.com)

**Website:** [www.tourismireland.com](http://www.tourismireland.com)

### **Regional Office**

Tourism Ireland  
Beresford House  
2 Beresford Road  
Coleraine  
BT52 1GE

**Tel:** (028) 7032 6632

**Fax:** (028) 7032 6932

**Email:**

**Website:** [www.tourismireland.com](http://www.tourismireland.com)

## North/South Bodies Board Members (2004)

### Food and Safety Promotion Board Advisory Board

Councillor Bertie Kerr  
**(Chairperson)**

Professor Charlie Daly  
**(Vice-Chairperson)**

Mr Don Anderson

Mr Leslie Craig

Ms Carmel Foley

Professor Patrick Fottrell

Mr Odran Flynn

Mr Patrick McColgan

Ms Catherine Murphy

Mr Damien O'Dwyer

Ms Anne Speed

Professor Seán Strain

### The Trade and Business Development Body

Dr Martin Naughton  
**(Chairperson)**

Mr Barry Fitzsimons  
**(Vice-Chairperson)**

Ms Mary Ainscough

Ms Mary Breslin

Mr Trefor Campbell

Mr John Fitzgerald

Mr Jack Gilmour

Ms Jackie Harrison

Mr Carl McCann

Mr Fergal McCormack

Dr Inez McCormack

Mr Robbie Smyth

### Foras Na Gaeilge

Mrs Maighr ad U  Mh irtin  
**(Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge/  
Joint Chairperson of An Foras Teanga)**

Mr Liam Corey

Ms Anne Craig

Mr Gordon McCoy

Mr Aod n Mac P ill n

Mr Gear id Mac Siacais

Mr Patrick McGlone

Ms Treasa N  Ailpin

Ms Caitr ona N  Cheallaigh

Ms M ir e d Nic Sheaghain

Mr Maolsheachlain   Caollai

Mr Leachlainn   Cath in

Mr P draig   Duibhir

Mr Gear id   hEara

Mr Diarmuid   Murch 

Ms Brid U  N ill

### Tha Boord o Ulst r-Scotch

Mr James Devenney\*  
**(Acting Chairperson of Tha Boord o Ulst r -Scotch/  
Acting Joint Chairperson of North/South Language Body)**

Dr P draig de Bh l

Dr Linde Lunney

Mr  amon O'Domhnaill

Mr Alistair Simpson

Mr Robert Stoker

Dr Ian Adamson

\* Lord Laird resigned as Chairperson on 23 April 2004.

### North/South Language Body

The Foyle, Carlingford and  
Irish Lights Commission

Mr Peter Savage  
**(Chairperson)**

Lord Cooke of Islandreagh  
**(Vice-Chairperson)**

Mr Jack Allen

Mr Keith Anderson

Mr Dick Blakiston-Houston

Mr Francis Feely

Dr Patrick J Griffin

Ms Siobhan Logue

Ms Jacqui McConville

Mr Joseph Martin

Mr Tarlach O Crosain

Mr Andrew Ward

Tourism Ireland

Mr Andrew Coppel  
**(Chairperson)**

Ms Ann Riordan  
**(Vice-Chairperson)**

Ms Gillian Bowler

Mr Alan Clarke

Mr Dennis Galway

Mr Howard Hastings

Mr Tony Kelly

Mr Tom McGrath

Mr Felix Mooney

Mr John Power

Mr Shaun Quinn

Mr Charles Sinnott



## Departmental Information

### Central Departments

#### Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister

Parliament Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
Belfast  
BT4 3XX

Tel: (028) 9052 8400

Fax: (028) 9052 1283

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

#### Executive Secretariat\*

Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister  
Castle Buildings  
Belfast  
BT4 3TT

Tel: (028) 9052 8164

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

#### Northern Ireland Division

Department of the Taoiseach  
Government Buildings  
Upper Merrion Street  
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Tel: (01) 662 4888

Fax: (01) 662 1972

Website: [www.irlgov.ie/taoiseach](http://www.irlgov.ie/taoiseach)

#### North/South Section

Anglo/Irish Division  
Department of Foreign Affairs\*\*  
80 St Stephen's Green  
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E-mail: [dfa@iveagh.irlgov.ie](mailto:dfa@iveagh.irlgov.ie)

Website: [www.irlgov.ie/iveagh](http://www.irlgov.ie/iveagh)

\* Co-ordinating role on Northern Ireland

\*\* Co-ordinating role on Southern side

### Inland Waterways Sector

#### Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure

3rd Floor Interpoint  
20-24 York Street  
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BT15 1AQ

Tel: (028) 9025 8825

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

#### Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

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## Health and Food Safety Sectors

#### Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

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#### Department of Health and Children

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

### Trade and Business Development Sector

#### Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

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Fax: (028) 9052 9273

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

#### Department for Employment and Learning

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### Special EU Programmes Sector

#### Department of Finance and Personnel

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#### Department of Finance

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## Language Sector

### Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure

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### An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta

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## Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission Sector

### Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

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### Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources

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

## Transport Sector

### Department of the Environment

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

### Department for Regional Development

Clarence Court  
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### Department of Transport

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