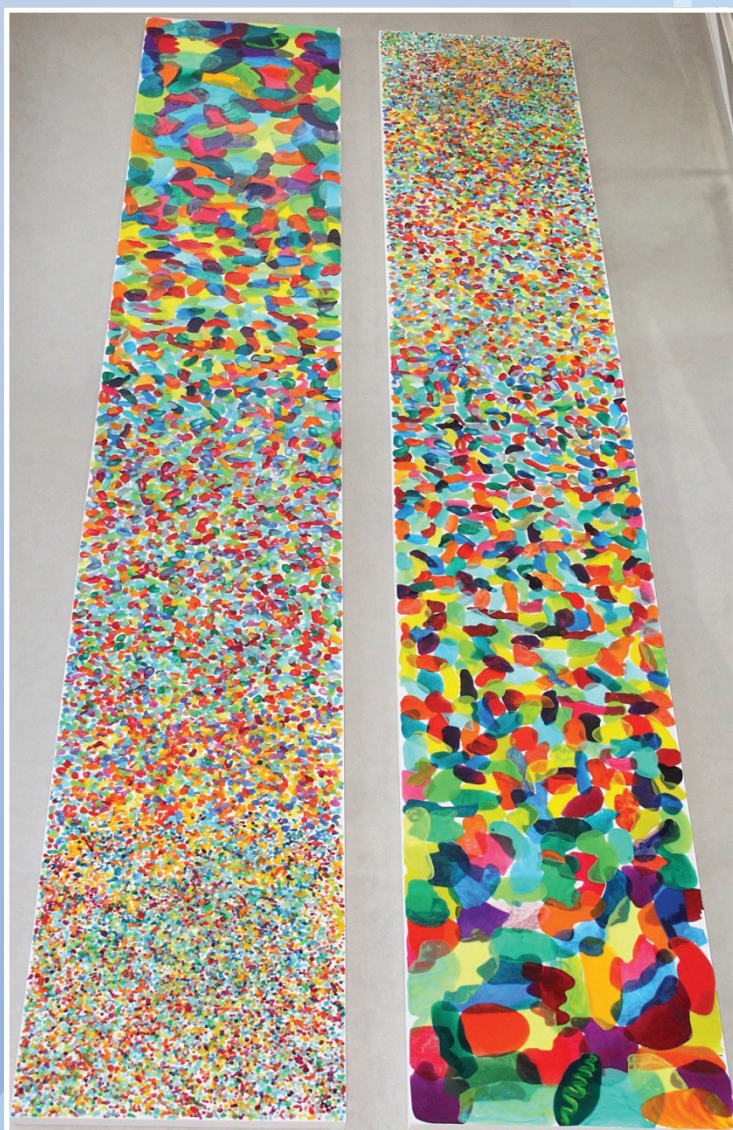




North South Ministerial Council
An Chomhairle Aireachta
Thuaidh Theas

North South Meinisterlie Council

2011 YEARLIE REPORT



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Foersied Cuiver: Airtwark for the inner atrium waa o the NSMC Jint Secretariat biggins frae Cork-buirn airtist Declan O'Mahony. The artwark wis a jint commession frae the Armagh Ceitie an District Council an the NSMC Jint Secretariat an wis relate tae the cultur an historical upmak o Armagh Ceitie an tae the NSMC.

The artwark teipifees Declan O'Mahonys 'acrylic-pourin' weys o wark thenou. The ar seeven sindert sizes in the monie-colourt layerin in the airtwark. In meithological terms the nummer 'seeven' wis kent as the seimbol o whit wis parfit an fou, an Armagh, in geographie, is sat amang the Seeven Hills. The auldest owerleivan manuscreiv in Airlan is the Beuk o Armagh. The twa columns o abstract, calligraphic seimbols put in yet anither subtil element o inspiration tae the oweraa design o the diptych. Last, thousans o fragments o colourt gless haps the lang windas in the baith cathedrals in Armagh. The architects o sic mukkil toueran structurks kent weel the pouer o colour for tae gie a heft tae manlie speirit up tae heicher leevles. Frae this cums the compact uiss o a meiriad o see-throu interlokkan colours gan up an gan doun in the cuil contemporar atrium o the NSMC Jint Secretariat biggin.

INNIN

2011 wis a year o a mukkil chynge for the North South Meinisterlie Council (NSMC) an a thrang ane for the Councils Jint Secretariat. The war, in aa, 24 forgaithers, comprehendan three Plenarie forgaithers an a ae Institutionlie forgaither. The Plenarie forgaither helt on 21 Januar 2011 wis the first helt in the new NSMC Jint Secretariat biggins in Armagh.

Kenspekkil wis the Plenarie forgaither helt in Farmleigh, Dublin on 10 Juin whaur the new Airis Govrenment an the new Norlin Airlan Executive gaithert for the first tym for a niffer o views anent a reinge maiters o lyk interest an consarn. It wis clear at aa thaer kent the gey mukkil challenges thair respective stewartries haes afoer thaim an the seriousness o the darg at wis efter a-pittan afoer thaim frae thair electorates.

A common theme at the three Plenarie forgaithers wis the economic an housshauld challenges afoer the baith administrations. The avauntages o practical wirkin thegaither an the need tae identifee aible cost hainins throu sic wark wis kent. Meinisters gien a walcum tae growan jint wark in the airt o innovation athin the European Union an taen tent at sic jint wark can cum tae tangible lyk benefits. Thay gien a walcum, forby, tae the confirmin o uphault in the baith stewartries for the oncum o a satellite radiotherapie service at Altnagelvin.

The North South Implement Curns an Tourism Ireland taen on a mukkil chynge in 2011 anaa, an the terms o service o thair Buirds bean cam tae an end. In November, the NSMC gien appruiv tae the ontak o new Buirds an gien thanks for the wark o the outgan Preses, Preses depute, Buid members an Directors, an commendit the mukkil inpit thay hid maed tae the wark o the Curns. We wiss tae jyne wi Meinisters in giean a walcum tae the new members o the Buirds, an giean thanks tae the outgan members for thair service.

ATHORT-MAIRCH MUIVIN

Throu the year, the NSMC Jint Secretariat, an a-speiran at relevant curns, leukit a nummer athort-mairch muivin maiters ower, comprehendan swithers wi processin social walfaur benefits claims wi a athort-

mairch element, the want o service o rede anent walfaur an cess maiters, an want o awaur anent the vailyie/equivalencie o vocational qualifications taen in ithergaets. For tae leuk thir maiters ower, seistems is nou sat up for tae deal wi sartin complex walfaur benefits cases. The Centre for athort-mairch Studdies will applee for INTERREG IVA siller in 2012 for the Mairches Fowk wabsteid, at will bring in trainin anent outgie o rede anent sartin athort-mairch maiters. The Council for the Curriculum, Examinations an Assessment an the National Qualifications Authority o Airlan sat a jint outgie furth, 'Qualifications can gae athort bounds: a roch guide tae the compaer o qualifications in the UK an Airlan.'

NSMC JINT SECRETARIAT BIGGINS

Our new biggins wis offeicial opent in Januar frae the First Meinister, First Meinister depute an the Taoiseach, efter a NSMC Plenarie forgaither. In Mairch, the syne Armagh Ceitie an District Council Provost, Jim Speers, jint us for an event for tae tak tent o the openin o the biggins.

In September, we wis gey blythe at Airts Meinisters, Carál Ní Chuilín an Jimmy Deenihan, jint us for the unhap o new airtwark for our inner atrium waa frae Cork-foundit airtist Declan O'Mahony. The airtwark wis a jint commeision frae the Armagh Ceitie an District Council an our ain sels.

Throu the year, we maed guid uiss o our new biggins wi 20 NSMC forgaithers helt thaer an a nummer importan events forby. Thir comprehendit a seminar, bean a pairt o the re-entrie program for the Washington Airlan Program Cless o 2011, an frae the Unietit States Ambassador tae Airlan, the Ambassador o Belgium tae Airlan, the Finns Ambassadors tae the Unietit Kingrik an tae Airlan an a delegation o offeicials frae the Republic Korea. We war blythe giean a walcum tae students frae the Southrin Regional College anaa, as peyed a veisit tae us as a pairt o thair Buskin for the Wark an Employabilitie Course.

ITHER ONCUMS

We wiss tae pey tribute tae Anne Barrington, at wis Jint Secretar til November 2011 whaniver she taen up a new post as Director General o the Euroep Division o the Depairtment o Fremmit Daeins an Traed efter her term as Jint Secretar (South) an tae Bill Nolan forby, syne Jint Secretar depute (South), at gaed intae retier in the year. We gie thanks tae baith Anne an Bill for aa thair wark wi the North South Meinisterlie Council an wiss thaim aa guid thochts for the futur. We wad be for giean thanks tae offeicials in the Norlin Airlan Executive an Airis Govrenment Depairtments, the North South Curns, the Jint Secretariat an aa our colleagues an feirs for thair vailyet help an wirkin thegaiter in 2011.

Mary Bunting
Jint Secretar (North)

Margaret Stanley
Jint Secretar, umwhiel
(South)



Armagh Ceitíe an District Council Provost Jim Speers wi Jint Secretars Mary Bunting, Anne Barrington an guests at the openin event for the new NSMC Jint Secretariat Biggins in Armagh, 25 Mairch 2011



Declan O'Mahony (airtist), Jimmy Deenihan TD, Meinister for the Airts, Heirship an the Gaeltacht, Freda Donnelly Provost, Armagh Ceitíe an District, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, the Airts an Leisur, Mary Bunting Jint Secretar (North) an Margaret Stanley Jint Secretar umwhiel (South) at the furthpit o a byordinar commeision o airtwark frae Declan O'Mahony for the NSMC Jint Secretariat Biggins in Armagh on the 28 September 2011

CHAPTER ANE: NSMC Plenarie an Institutionlie Forgaithers



Meinisters in pictur at the NSMC Plenarie forgaither 10 Juin 2011, Farmleigh Houss, Dublin

NSMC PLENARIE FORGAITHERS

1.1 The war three NSMC Plenarie forgaithers in 2011 - on 21 Januar 2011 at the NSMC Jint Secretariat biggins in Armagh, 10 Juin 2011 at Farmleigh Houss, Dublin an 18 November 2011 at the NSMC Jint Secretariat biggins in Armagh. The Airis Govrenment delegations wis heidit at the Januar forgaither frae the syne Taoiseach Brian Cowen TD, an at the Juin an November forgaithers frae the Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD. The First Meinister, the Rt Hon Peter Robinson MP, MLA an the First Meinister depute, Martin McGuinness MP, MLA heidit the Norlin Airlan Executive at aa three forgaithers. The Jint Communiqués sat furth efter thir forgaithers kythes at www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org.

1.2 At the Plenarie forgaithers, Meinisters taakit over a when lyk challenges an skaert views anent the economie, fiscal maiters, the banks an NAMA, an the

factors wi an inpit tae laich economic growth, pairticular the instabilitie an fiscal contraction in ither EU an warld economies. Wi leimits anent the housshauld in the baith stewartries the avauntages o practical wirkin thegaiter an the need tae identifee lyk cost hainins throu wirkin thegaiter wis gien ken. It wis greed at collogues anent this wad be taen foer frae Finance Meinisters.

JINT SECRETARS PROGRESS REPORT

At the Plenarie forgaithers, the Council taakit over progress reports anent wark taen foer at NSMC forgaithers in sector format comprehendan the wark o the North South Curns. Foerhaund maiters taakit over comprehendit:

- progress anent EU relate maiters brocht up at NSMC forgaithers, comprehendan jint wark for

CHAPTER ANE: NSMC Plenarie an Institutionlie Forgaithers

tae maximise drawdown o EU Funds frae the FP7 Resairch an Oncum Program;

- progress anent EU programs thenou an the lyk wirkin thegaither on futur EU programs;
- the offeicial openin o the Peace Brig ower the River Foyle;
- wirkin thegaither anent CAP reform an anent the aa-islan Beast Halth an Walfaur strategie;
- the greeance frae the twa Ambulance Services o a Memorandum o Understaundin for tae gie athort-mairch help, an the bean mukkil mishanters;
- a survey for tae leuk the sustainabilitie o primarie schuils in the Mairches airt ower, for a-takkan foer frae the twa Lear Meinisters.
- propoens anent the flittin o Foras na Gaeilge posts tae Gweedore - it wis taen tent at the wad be a colloque at a futur NSMC Lamage forgaither; an
- progress anent the re-openin o the Clones/Upper Lough Erne streek o the Ulster Canal.

BUIRDS O NORTH SOUTH CURNS AN TOURISM IRELAND LIMITED

1.3 Meinisters gien appruiv tae the ontak o Preses, Preses depute an members tae the Buirds o the North South Implement Curns an Directors o Tourism Ireland Limited. They taen tent forby at the nominations, as wis efter a-bringan foer, wad gie ongan an fresh perspectives tae the wark o the Curns. Details o the members kythes in Annex Three. Meinisters gien thanks for the wark o the outgan Preses, Preses depute, Buid members an Directors an commendit the mukkil inpit thay hid maed tae the wark o the Curns.

TOURISM

1.4 Meinisters taakit ower the mukkil inpit at tourism can mak tae the economie. The success o the MTV EMA awards an the associate tourism benefits for Belfast

wis put foer. The Council leukit ower thegaither ploys for tae gie a heft tae the Tourism Industrie an maximise the benefit o foercumman initiatives in the baith stewartries the lyk o ni 2012, comprehendan the Titanic Centenarie, the Derrie-Londonderrie Ceitie o Cultur in 2013 an 'The Gaitherin', a year-lang program o events in 2013 driv frae airts, sports, business an commontie groups.

NORTH WEST GAETWEY INITIATIVE

1.5 At the November forgaither the wis a colloque anent progress on the North West Gaetwey Initiative an Meinisters greed at the NSMC Jint Secretariat wad sat up a forgaither o offeicials frae relevant Depairtments in the baith stewartries, as wad gae on an speir at thair Meinisters, wi a view tae anither progress report a-pittan furth tae the NSMC Institutionlie forgaither in the waer o 2012.

PROGRESS ANENT A5 AN A8 PROJECTS

1.6 The Council taen tent o progress on the A5 (North West Gaetwey tae Aughnacloy) an A8 (Belfast tae Larne) projects an greed at payment o £3m wad be maed frae the Meinister o Transport, Tourism an Sport tae the NA Consolidate Fund, gan wi the greed procedur. At the November forgaither, it wis taen tent at the outgie o farder fundin frae the Airis Govrenment wis a-pittan bak, an at the outcum wis at the Airis Govrenment wad gie £25m the year in 2015 an 2016 til the project. It wis taen tent forby at the relevant depairtments will busk a new fundin an implement ploy for the projects for greeance at the NSMC Transport forgaither in 2012 wi endorsein at a NSMC Plenarie forgaither in Juin 2012.

ST ANDREWS GREEANCE OWERLEUK

1.7 Meinisters greed at a nummer propoens for tae bring foer the first element o the St Andrews Greeance Owerleuk wad be taakit ower at the neist round o NSMC forgaithers in sector format wi a view tae deceisions a-takkan at the NSMC Plenarie forgaither in Juin 2012. A wey foerairt on the ither elements o the Review wis greed forby. This wad comprehend speirins athin the Executive an athin the Airis Govrenment, colloques at the NSMC Institutionlie forgaither in the waer o 2012, an

final propoens a-greean at the NSMC Plenarie forgaither in Juin 2012.

NORTH SOUTH SPEIRAN FORUM

1.8 The bakgrund an recent oncums anent a North South Speiran Forum wis taen tent o, an Meinisters greed tae finalise collogues anent the maiter at the Plenarie forgaither in Juin 2012.

NORTH SOUTH PAIRLAMENTAR FORUM

1.9 Meinisters gien a walcum tae the wark o wirkan groups o the Oireachtas an the Norlin Airlan Assemblie comprehendan jint forgaithers helt in September in the Pairlament Biggins an in November in the Housen o the Oireachtas, Dublin an a farder forgaither sat for 15 December 2011.

NSMC INSTITUTIONLIE FORGAITHER

1.10 The NSMC forgaithert in Institutionlie format on 3 October 2011 in the Stormont Castle, Belfast. The Tánaiste an Meinister for Fremmit Daeins an Traed, Eamon Gilmore TD, First Meinister the Rt Hon Peter Robinson MLA, the First Meinister depute, John O'Dowd MLA an Danny Kennedy MLA, Meinister for Regional Oncum cam tae the forgaither. The Jint Communiqué sat furth efter the forgaither kythes at www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org

NORTH SOUTH CURNS MAITERS

1.11 The Council taen tent o progress maed anent Curns greean thair Corporate an Business Ploys an makkan effeiciencie hainins. It wis put furth at a overleuk o Financial Memoranda o the Curns wis ongan, an a report anent progress will be put foer at the neist Institutionlie Forgaither.

1.12 It wis greed at nether remuneration raets for Buird members wad applee whaniver nominations wis brocht foer for appruiv at the NSMC Plenarie forgaither in November 2011.

EU MAITERS BROCHT UP ATHIN NSMC

1.13 The wis a collogue anent progress on EU maiters taen up at NSMC forgaithers comprehendan jint wark anent resairch an oncum an progress anent current EU programs an the abeilitie for the wirkin thegaiter anent futur EU programs.

ATHORT-MAIRCH MUIVIN

1.14 It wis taen tent at seistems bes efter a-pittan in for the upred o swithers wi the processin o a wheen Department o Social Fendin walfaur benefit claims wi a athort-mairch element.

1.15 The ongan popularitie o the Mairches Fowk wabsteid (www.borderpeople.info) wis taen tent, an sae wis the ettil at the Centre for Athort Mairch Studdies, in pairtnerie wi ither curns, tae applee for EU fundin for the wabsteid for tae bring in specialist trainin for the outgie o rede anent athort-mairch maiters.

1.16 Wark at wis efter a-takkan foer for tae faceilitate the compaer o vocational qualifications ontaen in ither stewartries wis taakit ower forby. This wark comprehendit the furthset o a blaudie 'Qualifications can gae athort bounds: a roch guide tae the compaer o qualifications in the UK an Airlan'.

NORTH WEST GAETWEY INITIATIVE

1.17 The Council taen tent o progress at wis efter a-makkan unner the North West Gaetwey Initiative.



CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Forgoithers in Sector Format

This section comprehends a summarie o NSMC forgoithers in sector format in 2011. The Jint Communiqués frae thir forgoithers kythes at www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org



Agricultur



Left to right: Phil Hogan TD, Minister for the Environs, Commontie an Haemlie Govrenment, Michelle O'Neill MLA, Minister o Agricultur an Laundart Oncum, Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Agricultur, Meat an the Marine, an Edwin Poots MLA, Minister o Halth, Social Services an Public Sauffie, at the NSMC Agricultur forgaitheer in Armagh on 26 October 2011.

2.1.1 NSMC Agricultur forgaitheers cam aff 26 Julie 2011 an 26 October 2011. Michelle O'Neill MLA, Minister o Agricultur an Laundart Oncum, Edwin Poots MLA, Minister o Halth, Social Services an Public Sauffie, an Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Agricultur Meat an the Marine cam tae the baith forgaitheers. Phil Hogan TD, Minister for the Environs, Commontie an Haemlie Govrenment cam tae the October forgaitheer.

WIRKIN THEGAIHTHER ANENT BEAST HALTH

2.1.2 Meinisters taen in updaet reports anent the deliverie o the 2011/12 Aa-Islan Beast Halth an Walfaur Strategie Action Ploy, comprehendan:

- the furthpit o the first Aa-Islan Beast Disease Surveillance Report an the greeance o a Memorandum o Understaundin atween offeicial laboratories for tae forder enhauced wirkin thegaitheer an pairttakkin in collaborative resairch; an
- oncums anent beast disease contingencie plannin, comprehendan the greeance o

a Memorandum o Understaundan for tae facillitate the makkin o cairts o disease owerins azoens in the case o a outbreak on aither sied o the mairch; an the buskins for a farder jint mappin exercise anent this.

2.1.3 The Council gien a walcum tae a jint forgaitheer atween Heid Veterinar Offeicears (CVOs) frae the baith stewartries an the EU Commeision whaur the CVOs sat the case out for the Aa-Islan Beast Halth an Walfaur Strategie. The Commeision hid lat it be kent at the Strategies ettils wis a pairt o the thochts gien tae the new EU Beast Halth Law.

2.1.4 Jint wark at haes gien help til the pruvinn o Aujeszzkys Disease free status wis gien a walcum, an it wis greed at Depairtments sud gae on wirkan neirhaund for tae bring thegaitheer the tymin o inpit o applications for Aujeszzkys Disease free status.

CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

COMMON AGRICULTURE POLICY (CAP) AN INTERNATIONAL TRADE MATTERS

2.1.5 The Council taen tent o the furthset frae the EU Commeision o law-makkan propoens for the futur o the Common Agriculture Policy, comprehendan chyngein o national net ruifs for direct payments, chyngees tae the aefauld payment model, a green payment an a happin o mukkil payments, chyngees tae the details o laundart oncum meisurs an anent financial regulations. Oncums anent the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) reform process wis taakit ower forby, comprehendan furthset frae the EU Commeision o its communication anent the futur o the CAP an its propoens for the neist Monie-Yearlie Financial Fraemwark.

2.1.6 Taen tent forby wis oncums in international traed negotiations, pairticular negotiations wi the MERCOSUR group o South American kintras, the heid maiters o tariff leiberalisations an mercat access as wisna leukan leukit ower til mid 2012.

2.1.7 The twa Agriculture depairtments gien briefins tae Meinisters anent Greenhous Gas Resairch an Wirkin Thegaiter an ither collaborative wark anent resairch.

WIRKIN THEGAITHER ANENT PLAUNT HALTH

2.1.8 The Council gien appruiv tae the wark program o the Plaunt Halth an Pesticides Group, at comprehends contingencie ploys, the ongan oncum in the effeicient uiss o laboratorie facilities an graith, an jint campaigns on braider ken an lear in the industrie. Meinisters wis gien briefins forby anent ongan wirkin thegaiter, an dealan wi a nummer outbreaks o phytophthora ramorum in Japanese larick wuids, an thay gien a walcum tae the action taen for tae tak owerins o thir outbreaks.

LAUNDART ONCUM

2.1.9 The Council leukit ower ongan wirkin thegaiter anent laundart oncum, comprehendan uphauld for athort-mairch engagein frae haemlie action groups. The appruiv o €10 million o INTERREG IVA fundin for sax strategic athort-mairch laundart oncum projects wis gien a walcum. The wark o ane o thir projects, 'Harnessing Natural Resources' wis gien furth tae Meinisters. The project wis heidit frae the Cavan Countie Enterprise Buird in jint wark wi the Cavan Countie Council, the Fermanagh District Council, the Leitrim Countie Council, the Swanlinbar Oncum Associe, Coillte, an Inlan Fisheries Airlan Limited.

Lear



Left to right: Ruairí Quinn TD, Minister for Lear an Skeils, John O'Dowd MLA, Minister o Lear, Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister for Social Oncom at the NSMC Lear forgaither in Armagh on 21 September 2011.

2.2.1 The war twa NSMC Lear forgaithers in 2011 on the 21 Januar an 21 September. Mary Coughlan TD, Tánaiste an Meinister for Lear an Skeils, Caitríona Ruane MLA, Meinister for Lear an Danny Kennedy MLA, Meinister for Employ an Learnin cam tae the 21 Januar forgaither. John O'Dowd MLA, Meinister for Lear, Ruairí Quinn TD, Meinister for Lear an Skeils an Nelson McCausland MLA, Meinister for Social Oncom cam tae the 21 September forgaither.

LEAR UNNER-ACHEIV

2.2.2 The Council gien a walcum tae the furthset o literacie an numeracie strategies frae the Lear Depairtments an thair comemitment tae the wirkin agin unneracheivin in literacie an numeracie, pairticular amang thaim frae the maist disavaantaged bakgrunds. Sindert initiatives comprehendit: ongan uphauld for Maths Week Airlan, the Bairns Beuk Program, a Tym tae Read pilot project an a successfu jint confearence anent 'Forderan Literacie athin an ayont Schuils'.

2.2.3 Meinisters gien a walcum forby tae a propoen for a Peer Learnin Event anent the Schuil Tendin, wi a

focus tae efter-primarie pupils, an the Depairtment o Lear maed a commission for resairch intae guid practice an pairtnerie approaches atween schuil an faimlie in deprived airts in the forder o the regular schuil tendin o pupils o obligator schuil age, at will hae a report in Mairch 2012.

2.2.4 The presentin o the report an recommends o the wark o the Taskforce anent Traveller Lear tae the Depairtment o Lear wis taen tent o forby. It wis put furth at the Depairtment o Lear is wirkan on a scrow o a action ploy wi a view tae the cairiein out o a speirin atween Januar an Mairch 2012. Collaborative wark for tae develop a Tuilkit for Diversitie for tae gie uphauld for the professional oncum o middle management in schuils wis taakit ower forby.

LEAR FOR BAIRNS WI BYORDINAR LEAR NEEDS

2.2.5 Meinisters gien a walcum tae the ongan progress maed frae the Middletoun Centre for Autism, comprehendan the deliverie o trainin tae professionals an parents, an the oncum o links wi the Byordinar Lear Uphauld Services an the Inter-Buirid Autistic Spectrum

CHAPTER TWO: NSMC Meetings in Sectoral Format

Disorder Group. Forby, thay gien a walcum tae the kytsein o a ongan program o resairch, comprehendan the recent outgie, whaur relevant, o resairch in the airt o Autistic Spectrum Disorder in lasses, an tae ongan resairch in the airts o sensorie foundit proveision an wirkan memorie for thaim on the autism spectrum, forby wark wi the Depairtment o Lear for Capacitie Biggin for Byordinar Lear Needs.

2.2.6 Progress maed frae the Centre an the twa Lear Depairtments anent the oncum o a monie-yearlie ploy for the futur oncum o the Centre wis gien a walcum forby.

DOMINIES QUALIFICATIONS

2.2.7 Meinisters taen in a presentin frae the Professional Oncum Service for Dominies an the Curriculum, Rede an Uphauld Service anent the North/South Airis-Medium Wark Program in the airt o dominie lear.

2.2.8 Thay taen tent o progress maed frae the jint Wirkan Group anent Dominie Qualifications comprehendan the byordinar focus tae Airis-Medium Lear an ongan liaison atween the twa Teachin Councils anent maiters relate tae dominie muivin in the baith stewardries an progress in the outgie o wittins anent pension maiters for dominies, as wis for flittan for tae wirk in the tither stewardrie.

2.2.9 Meinisters taen tent o the stairt o a North/South Commontie o Practice uphauldan Airis-Medium dominies forby, an o a action ploy for tae uphauld Airis-Medium schuils for the 2011/2012 academic year.

2.2.10 The twa Lear inspectorates put a presentin furth tae the Council anent thair wirkin thegaiter in the professional oncum o inspectors, comprehendan the

ongan inpit o niffers atween the Inspectorates an the furthset o a jint Inspectorate report anent the best wey o the forderin an impruivin o literacie an numeracie in schuils.

2.2.11 The wis a collogue anent collaborative wark atween the Regional Trainin Unit an the Professional Oncum Service for Dominies anent maiters o schuil leadership, an it wis taen tent o at a report wi the heidin 'Leadership Maiters' wis a-pruiwan frae the baith Depairtments wi a view tae its furthsettin.

SCHUIL YOUTH AN DOMINIE NIFFERS

2.2.12 Meinisters taen tent at a owerleuk, o wirkin thegaiter in the airt o lear niffers wis efter a-comprehendan in Pairt 1 o a oweraa studdie anent north-south wirkin thegaiter in the lear sector, wis aa daen an wis efter a-greean frae the twa Depairtments.

2.2.13 Thay taen tent forby at the seicont year o the pilot enterprise straund o the Dissolvein Bounds program wis successfu daen, an leukit foer tae the ontak o a jint report frae the baith inspectorates, an thair formal evaluation o the program aa by.

2.2.14 Ongan colloques anent futur wirkin thegaiter anent the endorsein o youth wark qualifications for tae mak siccar o an gie uphauld tae best practice, an for tae faceilitate professional muivin an niffer baith on north/south an east/west founds, wis taen tent o anaa.

2.2.15 Propoens for the 2011-2012 North South Student Dominie Niffer Project wis gien a walcum forby.

Environs



Left to right: Danny Kennedy MLA, Minister for Regional Council, Phil Hogan TD, Minister for the Environs, Commontie an Haemlie Govrenment an Alex Attwood MLA, Minister o the Environs at the NSMC Environs forgaither in Armagh on 1 Julie 2011.

2.3.1 The war twa NSMC Environs forgaithers in 2011 on the 1 Julie an 21 October. The forgaithers haen at thaim Phil Hogan TD, Meinister for the Environs, Commontie an Haemlie Govrenment, Alex Attwood MLA, Meinister o the Environs, an Danny Kennedy MLA, Meinister for Regional Oncum.

AFFPIT MANAGEMENT

2.3.2 The Council gien a walcum tae ongan oncums in affpit management an the neirhauder wirkan relations atween Department for tae bring intae lien policies, whaur appropriate, in airts o lyk benefit an arrengements for dealin wi meat affpit comprehendan organic affpit.

2.3.3 Meinisters taen in presentins anent the Aa-Islan Recyclat Plastic Affpit Arysins Studdie. The wark o the North-South Mercat Oncum Steerin Group wis gien a walcum, an Meinisters taen tent o baith the furthset o a tender for a mukkil affpit reuiss management best practice studdie, an at the first forgaither o the qualitie protocols unnergroupp wis cam aff.

2.3.4 It wis taen tent at the Department o the Environs, Commontie an Haemlie Govrenment wis for engagean wi Department o Environs an the Department o Environs, Meat an Laundart Daeins in giean thocht tae the leimits thenou in the UK Ploy relate tae athort-mairch Transfrontier Shipment o Affpit muivments o champit Muneicipal Solid Affpit frae Norlin Airlan tae Airlan.

2.3.5 Forby, the Council gien a walcum tae the ongan wirkin thegaiter an skaerin o experience atween the Department o Environs an the Office o the Revenue Commeisionars in the oncum o DOEs Cairiear Bag Levie project an progress til the implement o the EU Laundfill Directive (1999/31/EC).

ATHORT-MAIRCH MUIVMENTS O AFFPIT

2.3.6 It wis put furth at the remuiv o affpit frae steids at Slattinagh, Co Fermanagh, an neir Trillick, Co Tyrone, wis aa daen an at the remuiv o affpit frae a steid at Ballymartin, Kilkeel, wis neir daen an at wark wis aa sat for beginnin anent a farder steid benorth the Newrie. The Norlin Airlan Environs Agentrie wis gan on bringan

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foer ploys for tae deal wi the laev o no legal affpit steids an wis wirkan neirhaund wi its counterparts in the Dublin Ceitie Council. Meinisters taakit ower an commendit jint enforcein daeins a-bringan foer frae the competent authorities.

WATTER QUALITIE

2.3.7 Meinisters taen tent at the North-South Wirkan Group on Watter Qualitie wis gien thocht tae a reinge watter qualitie maiters wi a view tae the formulatoin o a wark program for greeance at a futur forgaither. Thir comprehendit abstraction an impound controls, nitrates, shellfish watters, bathin watters, the scowth for aa-islan Beach Awaruds, an INTERREG IVA projects.

2.3.8 It wis put furth at the jint screeds 'Wirkan Thegaiter, Managean Our Skaert Watters' for the North Wastren an Neagh Bann International River Basin Districts wis aa daen an sat furth on the Depairtments wabsteids, an at the North South Wirkan Group on Watter Qualitie wis gan on dryvan an owersean the

coordinate implement o the River Basin Managein Ploys an associate meisurs unner the EU Watter Fraemwark Directive.

ENVIRONS REPORTIN AN RESEARCH

2.3.9 The Council gien a walcum tae ongan wark for tae bring on a lyk set o environs indicators comprehendan wab-foundit presentins an the ettill-for furthset o 'Airlan North an South: A Stateistical Profiel'.

2.3.10 Progress frae the Norlin Airlan Environs Agentrie an Environs Fendin Agentrie in takkan foerairt jint daeins anent resairch for the uphauld o the implement o environs policie an legislation wis taen tent. Meinisters gien a walcum tae farder wirkin thegaiter in uphauldan researchars leukan Euroepean fundin for foerhaund environs resairch unner the EU FP7, INTERREG an LIFE+ programs forby.

Health



Pittan the Airlan-Norlin Airlan-National Cancer Institute Consortium yearlie daeins report for 2010 furth, left tae richt: OFMDFM Junior Meinister Martina Anderson MLA, James Reilly TD, Meinister for Halth, Edwin Poots MLA, Meinister o Halth, Social Services an Public Sauttie, an Frances Fitzgerald TD, Meinister for Bairns an Youth Daeins at the NSMC Halth an Meat Sauttie forgaiter in Armagh on 20 Julie 2011.

2.4.1 The NSMC Halth an Meat Sauttie forgaiter wis on the 20 Julie 2011. James Reilly TD, Meinister for Halth, Frances Fitzgerald TD, Meinister for Bairns an Youth Daeins, Edwin Poots MLA, Meinister for Halth, Social Services an Public Sauttie, an Martina Anderson MLA, Junior Meinister, OFMDFM cam tae the forgaiter.

CANCER AN HALTH RESAIRCH WIRKIN THEGAIHER

2.4.2 The Council firmt up uphauld for the oncum o the planned satellite radiotherapie faceilitie at the Altnagelvin Spittal. The Centre will serr cancer patients in the baith Stewartries an the ettil is for the faceilitie tae be fou wirkan frae 2016.

2.4.3 The Airlan-Norlin Airlan-National Cancer Institute Consortium yearlie daeins report for 2010 wis put furth. The Report sets foer ongan success an acheiv in lear an trainin, the bringin thegaiter o data for tae win tae the first aa–islan atlas o cancer, the skaerin o best practice faceilitate frae the TELESYNERGY multimedia conference faceilitie, an ongan jint resairch projects an cleinical pruiws.

2.4.4 Meinisters gien a walcum forby tae the furthpit o the Aa-Airlan Institute for Hospice an Palliative Cair for tae big up lear, resairch policie an service oncum in palliative cair.

HALTH FORDER

4.5 Progress in the baith Stewartries anent tacklin alcohol abuiss, tobacco consumption an obesitie, an the scowth for skaerin wittins an evidence-foundit material wis taen tent o. Ploys for a North South conference an thochts o propoens for a jint initiative anent alcohol misuiss wis gien a walcum.

WIRKIN THEGAIHER ANENT EMERGENCIE SERVICES

2.4.6 The Council gien a walcum tae the wirkin thegaiter atween the Norlin Airlan Fier an Rescue Service an fierfechtars frae the sax mairch Fier an Rescue Services anent the Dryvan Chynge Project at wis ettilt at the impruivin o the halth an public sauttie o fowk bieran an traivelan in the mairches airt.

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2.4.7 Wirkin thegaiter atween the Norlin Airlan Ambulance Service an the HSE National Ambulance Service thro the oncum o Memoranda o Understaundan – as gies out athort-mairch assistance, an the bean mukkil mishanters – wis gien a walcum tae forby.

SUICIED PREVENTION

2.4.8 The Council gien a walcum tae progress anent the Aa-Islan Action Ploy anent Suicied Prevention, comprehendan the furthset o the Aa-Islan Evaluation o ASIST (Appleed Suicied Intervention Skeils Trainin). Frae the end o 2011, ower 25,000 fowk will be daen wi the ASIST trainin program. Taakit ower forby wis the wirkin o a media monitor service in Norlin Airlan for seeven mond, an the skaerin o a reinge initiatives frae the National Office for Suicied Prevention an the Public Halth Agentrie unner a airt for action wi the heidin 'Suicied an the Economic Downturn'. The beginnin o the Aa-Islan Mens Halth Forum, at gien menfowk a haund in crisis an emotional cummer, an ploys for pilot initiatives, wis taen tent o forby.

BAIRN FENDIN

2.4.9 The Council gien a walcum tae ongan progress wi pittan foer the wirkin thegaiter in the airt o bairn walfaur an fendin, comprehendan the uptak an uiss o the Bairn Fendin Hub frae practeitionars, an action for a-takkan for tae gie a heft tae farder ken o its existence. Oncums in the Inter-Stewartrie Protocol for the Transfer o Bairn Caur cases wis taakit ower. The protocol comprehend the oncum o a lyk set o wark procedurs an the ongan wirkin thegaiter frae the twa polis services an social services anent the skaerin o wittins on athort-mairch founds relate tae aefauld bodies as cud be a risk tae bairns.

Tourism



Left tae richt: Leo Varadkar TD, Meinister for Transport, Tourism an Sport wi Salman Khan an Katrina Kaif, actors in a Bollywood film Ek Tha Tiger ('Ance The Wis A Tiger') at wis filmt in Dublin in the hairst o 2011, wi Niall Gibbons, Heid Executive o Tourism Ireland Ltd.

2.5.1 Tourism Ireland Ltd haes responsalitie for the mercatin in fremmit launds o the islan Airlan as a tourist end pynt. Hit haes a Buird o 12 members taen on frae the NSMC. On 19 December 2011 Mr Brian Ambrose an Mr Jim Flannery cam efter Ms Ann Riordan an Ms Ciara Boyle as Preses an Preses depute respective. Mr Hugh Friel wis Preses til 2 Mey 2011. Buird members thenou kythes in Annex Three. The Heid Executive o Tourism Ireland is Mr Niall Gibbons. Farder details kythes at www.tourismireland.com.

2.5.2 The NSMC Tourism forgaither wis helt on 3 Februar 2011. Mary Hanafin TD, Meinister for Tourism, Cultur an Sport an Meinister for Enterprise Traed an Innovation, Arlene Foster MLA, Meinister for Enterprise, Traed an Investment an Junior Meinister Gerry Kelly MLA, cam tae this forgaither.

2.5.3 The Council taen in updaets frae the Preses an Heid Executive anent the wark o Tourism Ireland. The Council taakit ower the sweir worldwied condeitions, as wis efter haean a ill impact tae tourism performance.

2.5.4 Meinisters taakit ower Tourism Irelands ploys for tae get bak tae growth in veisitar nummers frae the refocus o mercatin daeins for tae reinforce the sindert islan o Airlan holiday experience, an a mukkil investment in the e-business for tae mak siccar the islan o Airlans onlien presence wis stranger forby. The mukkil oncums comprehendit:

- efter reductions in veisitar nummers frae fremmit launds in ilkane o the years syne 2007, the wis growth in veisitars frae fremmit launds o 10% in the tym tae the end o Julie 2011 bys the ae tym in 2010. Aa mukkil mercats in fremmit launds, comprehendan Gret Britain, North America an Mainlan Euroep wis efter shawan positive growth feigurs in this tym;
- the London Ee, the Moulin Rouge in Paris, Burj Al Arab in Dubai an Table Mountain in South Africa wis juist a outwael o the iconic biggins an attractions as cam green on St Patricks Day, stairtan a mukkil €28 million waer forder dryv. Tourism Ireland put a mukkil mercatin dryv

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Arlene Foster MLA, Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment came together with Niall Gibbons, CEO of Tourism Ireland Ltd, and Ann Riordan, President of Tourism Ireland Ltd at the Tourism Ireland Ltd Buid Forgair in October 2011

forth in Britain and the United States for the big event the visits of the Queen Elizabeth II and the President Obama in May. A further campaign in the year put forward cultural festivals and events galore, comprehending the Dublin Festival Season and the MTV European music awards in Belfast; and

- Tourism Ireland rolled out a golf tourism campaign of a worth of £1.8m, to attract holidaymakers to come and see the 'Home of Champions' after the victories of Rory McIlroy and Darren Clarke at the US and Brits Opens as a result of their successes. Tourism Ireland was working hard to take full advantage of this momentum along with NITB and Fáilte Ireland.

Transport



Left to right: Danny Kennedy MLA, Minister for Regional Development, Leo Varadkar TD, Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Alex Attwood MLA, Minister of the Environment, at the NSMC Transport forum in Armagh on 20 October 2011.

2.6.1 The various NSMC Transport forums on 9 February 2011 and on 20 October 2011. The 9 February forum had at it Edwin Poots MLA, Minister of the Environment, Conor Murphy MP MLA, Minister for Regional Development, and Pat Carey TD, Minister for Communities, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs, Transport & Communications, Energy and Natural Resources. The 20 October forum had at it Leo Varadkar TD, an Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Danny Kennedy MLA, Minister for Regional Development and Alex Attwood MLA, Minister of the Environment.

2.6.2 At the forums, Ministers agreed to an agreement on the way forward for the Strategic Transport Plan and Road Safety.

ROADS

2.6.3 The Council agreed to progress on the A5 (North West Gaeltacht to Aghnacloy) and A8 (Belfast to Larne) projects and agreed to payment of £3m to be made from the Minister of Transport, Tourism and Sport to the Northern Ireland Consolidate Fund, and to the agreed procedure. At the November forum, it was agreed to the outcome of

further funding from the Airis Government was a matter for the Airis Government and was agreed to be £25m per year from 2015 to 2016 for the project. It was agreed that the relevant departments will seek a new funding arrangement for the projects for agreement at the NSMC Transport forum in 2012 to be endorsed at a NSMC Plenary forum in June 2012.

ROAD SAFETY

2.6.4 The Council agreed to the further development of the Northern Ireland Road Safety Strategy to 2020. They agreed to work on the way forward on Road Safety ideas and initiatives to be implemented through the output of Road Safety Strategies and Actions in bringing the Road Safety Concentration Levels. They agreed to work on the way forward in the way forward for the impact of the UK Government's proposed Heavy Goods Vehicle Charge Scheme and the way forward of Joint Intelligence and Targeted Darg in the Mairches Airis with a focus on vehicle standards, licensing and driver hours.

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LYK KEN O PENALTIE PYNTS

2.6.5 It wis taen tent at offeicials wad wirk thegaiter for tae bring foerairt propoens for the inbring o lyk ken o penaltie pynts atween Norlin Airlan an Airlan for fouwer lesser road traffic infringements. It wis put furth at a tymtable for deliverie an implement wad be buskit wi the ettil o haein the necessar laws an uphauddan admeinstrative arreingements insat frae 2014.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

2.6.6 Ploys for a aa-islán Biek Week 2011, a athort-mairch schuils challenge event at wis helt in Waak tae Schuil Week 2011, an pilot Personalised Traivel Ploy initiatives in Adamstoun an Galliagh wis gien a walcum.

2.6.7 Meinisters gien a walcum tae the success o the Depairtment for Regional Oncum an the Depairtment o the Environs in makkan siccar Plugged in Places fundin o around £850,000 frae the Office for Laich Emeision Vehicles for tae uphaudd the inpit o electric vehicle chairgein infrastructure, an at the ESB wad gae on wi haean a role in makkan siccar the linkin o ploys aa ower the islán Airlan.

FRAUCHT FORUM

2.6.8 The Council taakit ower progress maed anent the fiev foerhaund airts o the Aa-Airlan Fraucht Forum as comprehendit:

- forgaiters wi the relevant regional an haemlie authorities, comprehendan the Dublin Ceitie Council an the Belfast Ceitie Council anent mair sustainable fraucht transport operations in Dublin an Belfast;
- an event wi 50 delegates in it frae public curns an industrie, at hid heid maiters relate tae a sauffer mair compliant an eco-effeicient road fraucht industrie identifeed;

- a forgaiter o representars o ports, rail companies, shippin liens an exportars for tae leuk intae farder the potential o rail fraucht an coastal traed an short sea shippin;
- upset o a oweraa baselien relate tae international connecteivitie anent aa regular schedulet ro/ro an lo/lo services an identifeein o heid industrie clusters; an
- a owerleuk o fraucht data thenou for Norlin Airlan an Airlan an a relate uisear speirins an stakehauddar warkshop at wis helt in the Dublin Castle on 5 October for tae identifee potential wittins gaps.

2.6.9 The Fraucht Forum helt a seicont plenarie event on 7 November 2011 in Belfast for tae leuk at a reinge maiters as bes relevant tae the fraucht sector.

RAIL

2.6.10 Meinisters taen in a presentin frae heid offeicials frae Iarnród Éireann an Norlin Airlan Railways leukan at maiters brocht up in the Enterprise Rail Seminar report. The twa companies gien an outlien o ploys for a nummer meisurs, for a-takkan foerairt ower the echtteen mond cumman, as bes in lien wi suggestions maed in the report, comprehendan the proveision o WiFi, a new PA seistem an impruivin reliabilitie.

2.6.11 Progress anent the Dublin/Belfast rail link wis taakit ower. It wis taen tent at syn the reconstruction o the viaduct at Malahide, passengear nummers wis gaed up an cam stabil. Meinisters gien a walcum tae anither haat on the Enterprise Service at Lisburn an the stait o a new Newrie tae Dublin ear morn direct service incumman at around 08.35 in Dublin.

Aquacultur an Marine



Left to right: Loughs Agency CEO Derick Anderson, Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister for Social Inclusion, Michelle O'Neill MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Food, Fergus O'Dowd TD, Minister of State, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, and Preses, Loughs Agency at NSMC Loughs Agency forgothair in Armagh on 14 October 2011.

The NSMC forgothairers in Aquacultur an Marine sector format for tae tak decisions anent policies an actions for implement frae the Foyle Cairlinford an Airis Lichts Commeision (FCILC). The FCILC haes a Buid o 12 members taen on frae the NSMC. The Buid taks on the functions o the Curn relate tae the Foyle an Cairlinford airts throu the Loughs Agency. On 13 December 2011, Mr Winston Patterson an Mr Alan McCulla taen ower frae Mr Tarlach O Crosain an Ms Jacqui McConville as Preses an Preses depute o the Buid respective. The Buid members kythes thenou in Annex Three. The Heid Executive o the Loughs Agency is Mr Derick Anderson. Farder details kythes at www.loughs-agency.org.

NSMC Aquacultur an Marine forgothairers cam aff on 4 Julie 2011 an 14 October 2011. Michelle O'Neill MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Food, an Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister for Social Inclusion, cam tae baith forgothairers. Pat Rabbitte TD, Minister for Communications, Energie an Naitural Graith cam tae the Julie forgothair an Fergus O'Dowd TD, Minister of State, Department of Communications, Energie an Naitural Graith cam tae the October forgothair.

PROGRESS REPORTS

The Preses an the Heid Executive gien Ministers progress reports anent the wark o the Loughs Agency. Heid oncums taakit ower comprehendit:

- ongan attaks on the Loughs Agencies enforcein wirkars an on volunteer River Tentars. Ministers gien ken tae the dedication o enforcein wirkars an volunteers in leukan tae detect an pit frae no legal fishin actevitie an strang condemnt thir attaks.
- the openin o an Agency office in Greencastle, the Countie Dinnygal;
- completion o new aquaria in the Agencies veisitar centre, Riverwatch;
- completion o amenitie steids at Mill Bay an Nairra Watter as bes upheld frae NITB as a pairt o the braider Mourne Coastal road;

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- appruiv an progress o the INTERREG projects at Meadabank an the import o thir facilities for the Clipper Round the World Challenges veisit tae the Lough Foyle;
- completion o the Strategic Environs Pruv anent the inbring o a licensin regime tae the Foyle an Cairlinford airts for aquacultur an wild shellfisheries gan along wi the relevant EU Directive;
- impruivin in lenth frequencie o the staudan stok o oysters in the Lough Foyle;
- 2011 saamon counts as put ower relative saen fish rins in a wheen seistems, but consarns ower ithers, pairticular the River Mourne;
- greeance for the Loughs Agentrie tae stait up a process for the ontak o its thrid Foyle an Cairlinford Forum o Rede gan wi best practice an makkan siccar best vailie for siller; an
- the outgie frae the Loughs Agentrie o environs lear programs as faceillitates outstikkan staekhauldar engagement, pairticular wi yung fowk, at haes an importan role wi chyngean the myndset o staekhauldars anent thair role wi managean the Foyle an Cairlinford fangin airts, an makkan thair sustainabilitie siccar.

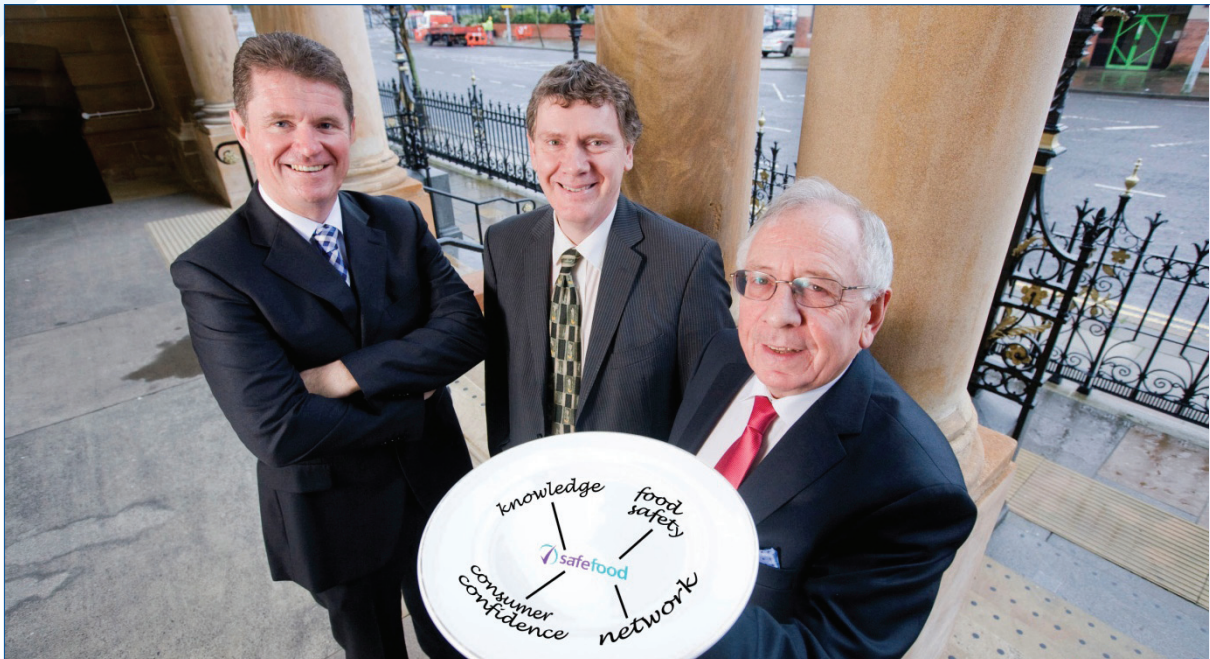
Meinisters gien appruiv tae the Loughs Agentrie Corporate Ploy 2011-13 an the Business Ploy for 2011 an gien recommends for housshauld outgie for 2011 o £4.5387m (€5.535m). Thay taen tent o indicative

housshaulds o £4.3957m (€5.3606m) for 2012 an £4.2527m (€5.1862m) for 2013.

The regulations ablo nott for the conserr an fendin o the fisheries in the Foyle an Cairlinford airts wis gien appruiv forby:

- The Foyle Airt an Cairlinford Airt (Anglin Permits) Regulations 2011;
- The Foyle Airt an Cairlinford Airt (Forbid o No Licensed Fishin) (Prescribed Species) Regulations 2011; an
- The Foyle Airt an Cairlinford Airt (Taggin an Logbeuk) (Amend) Regulations 2011.
- The Council gien appruiv for a farder year, tae Julie 2012, a procedur for tae uphauld the Loughs Agentrie in dealan, throu regulations, wi emergencies the lyk o pollution mishanters.

Meat Saughtie



At the furthpiti o safefoods new Knowledge Niffer Networks left tae richt, Rob Hargrove, PepsiCo Euroep, Andrew McCormick, DHSSPSNI, an Campbell Tweedie, Preses depute, safefood Buirid o Rede.

The NSMC forgaiters anent Meat Saughtie maiters for tae tak decisions anent policies an actions for implement frae the Meat Saughtie Forder Buirid (FSPB). FSPB gaes unner the brand identifeear 'safefood'. Hit haes a Buirid o Rede o 12 members, taen on frae the NSMC, wi the foerhaund ettil o the forder o meat saughtie an uphauld o the scienteific wirkin thegaiter atween institutions wirkan in thon airt. On 13 December 2011, Ms Lynn Ní Bhaoighealláin an Ms Darina Allen cam efter Mr John Dardis an Mr Campbell Tweedie as Preses an Preses depute o the Buirid respective. The Buirid members thenou kythes in Annex Three. The Heid Executive o safefood is Mr Martin Higgins. Farder details kythes at www.safefood.eu.

A NSMC Meat Saughtie forgaiter wis helt on 20 Julie 2011. James Reilly TD, Meinister for Halth, Frances Fitzgerald TD, Meinister for Bairns an Youth Daeins, Edwin Poots MLA, Meinister for Halth, Social Services an Public Saughtie, an Martina Anderson MLA, Junior Meinister, OFMDFM cam tae the forgaiter.

Meinisters taen in a progress report frae the Preses an Heid Executive anent the acteivities o safefood.

Heid oncums taakit ower comprehendit:

- the prorogate o the term o the safefood Obesity Action Forum, at helpit wi the identifeein o lyk airts in obesity reduction policies;
- forder acteivities, comprehendan the success o a 'Stop the Spread' obesity an overwecht campaign, an o a warkplace campaign ettilt at bringan doun saat intak in wark canteens an restaurants; an
- resairch daeins comprehendan the upcast o the dietar saat intak ower a cross-section o the population an its associe wi liefstyl-relate risk factors.

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Left tae Richt: John McCallister MLA, Michelle Gildernew MLA, Jim Wells MLA, an Judith Cochrane MLA at the furthpint o safefoods twa-year, aa-islant awaur campaign cryed 'Stop the Spread'.

The Council gien appruiv tae safefoods Corporate Ploy 2011-2013 an Business Ploy 2011 an gien recommends for the housshauld outgie for 2011 o €8.5m (£6.97m). Thay taen tent o indicative housshaulds o €8.5m (£6.97m) for ilkane o the years 2012 an 2013.

Inlan Watterweys



Left ta e richt: Dinny McGinley TD, Meinister o State wi byordinar responsalitie for Gaeltacht Daeins, John Martin, CEO Watterweys Airlan, Jimmy Deenihan TD, Meinister for the Airts, Heirship an the Gaeltacht, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, the Airts an Leisur, an OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell at NSMC Watterweys Airlan forgaither on 12 October 2011.

2.9.1 Watterweys Airlan haes responsalitie for the management, uphaul, oncum an restoerin o the inlan navigable watterwey seistems aa ower the islan, for foerhaund recreational ettils. Hit haes responsalitie thenou for thir watterweys: Barra navigation, Erne Seistem, Graund Canal, Nether Bann Navigation, Royal Canal, Shannon-Erne Watterwey an Shannon Navigation cumman ta e around 1,000km o navigable watterweys. Hit haes responsalitie forby for the restoerin o the streek o the Ulster Canal atween Clones an Upper Lough Erne an, efter restoerin, for its management, uphaul an oncum. The Heid Executive o Watterweys Airlan is Mr John Martin. Farder details kythes at www.waterwaysireland.org

2.9.2 The NSMC Inlan Watterweys forgaithers wis helt on 7 Julie an 12 October. Jimmy Deenihan TD, Meinister for the Airts, Heirship an the Gaeltacht, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, the Airts an Leisur, an OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell MLA cam ta e the baith forgaithers. Dinny McGinley TD, Meinister o State wi byordinar responsalitie for Gaeltacht Daeins cam ta e the forgaither on the 12 October.

2.9.3 The Council taen in progress reports frae the Heid Executive anent the wark o Watterweys Airlan. Heid oncums taakit ower comprehendit:

- the onpit frae Watterweys Airlan o a successfu forgaither o the EU Watterweys Foerairt INTERREG IVC Project in Dublin an Inniskillen at haen at it representars frae 17 curns frae 11 EU countries forby Norrowey an Serbie;
- the outgie o mair muirins on the watterweys an the ongae o the uphaul program. This wark haen its foerhaund focus around girse an hek sneddin, weed sneddin, towpad impruivin, lok uphaul, pentin, uppit o bollards, trackwey uphaul, an gaitherin o affpit. On the laundart streeks o the navigations, pairticular uphaul projects comprehendit mend warks for lekkin owerins ettils;
- progress anent the restoerin o the Clones ta e Upper Lough Erne streek o the Ulster Canal. It wis taen tent at the Strategic Environs Pruiv

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report an Ploy screeds wis aa daen an sat furth, an the Environs Impact Pruiv wis aa daen. The steid investigation wark wis ongan. Forgaithers wis helt frae Watterweys Airlan wi aa relevant statutor authorities for tae gie thaim rede anent the project. Public forgaithers wis helt anaa. Detailt drawins o the road an associate faceilities wis aa daen wi. Plannin notices wis put furth tae thaim as bes aucht laund in Norlin Airlan in the week beginnan 26 September 2011 an notices wis put out anent launds in Airlan in the week beginnan 3 October 2011;

- the ongae o Watterweys Airlans mercatin daeins wi the outgie o new furthsets an the sponsorin o ower 70 events for tae forder the ken o the watterweys ower aa navigations. Events comprehendit the Watterweys Airlan Riverfest, Watterweys Airlan TriAthlone, Watterweys Airlan Scarriff Harbour Festival, Watterweys Airlan Phizzfest, Watterweys Airlan Loughfest, Sport on the Royal Canal, Barrow 2011, Lough Allen Airt an Watter Festival, Faimlie Fun Weekend on the Nether Bann, the Classic Fishin Festival, Inniskillen, an the Inter-counties Sail Kempin in the Dublin Docklans Festival;
- the Laeklans an Inlan Watterweys initiative jint project atween Watterweys Airlan, Fáilte Ireland, Norlin Airlan Tourist Buid, Fermanagh Tourism, Tourism Ireland an Shannon Oncum relate tae a mercatin campaign for the Erne-Shannon seistem frae Belleek tae Limerick. Outgie o

associate brochurs unner the cuiveran heidin o 'Laeklan an Inlan Watterweys' wis ongan;

- a presentin anent the avauntages o the watterweys, comprehendan economic avauntages o the watterweys tae the haemlie commontie, recreation industrie, tourism industrie an the economie;
- the outgie frae Watterweys Airlan o regular Marine Notices giean uisears wittins anent the watterweys; an
- greeance o a nummer propretie dispoens in the context o a reinge oncum propoens on the watterweys.

2.9.4 The Council gien appruiv tae the Watterweys Airlan Corporate Ploy 2011 – 2013 an Business Ploy 2011, an gien a recommend for the housshauld proveision o €35.18m (£28.85m) for 2011.

Langage



Left tae richt: Tom Scott, Preses, Ulster-Scots Agentrie, Liam Ó Maoilmhichíl, Preses, Foras na Gaeilge, Dinny McGinley TD, Meinister o Staet wi byordinar responsalitie for Gaeltacht Daeins, Jimmy Deenihan TD, Meinister for the Airts, Heirship an the Gaeltacht, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, the Airts an Leisur, OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell MLA, Ian Crozier, CEO, Ulster-Scots Agentrie an Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh, CEO, Foras na Gaeilge at NSMC Langage forgaitheir in Armagh on 12 October 2011.

2.10.1 The Langage Curn comprehends twa twyned agentries – The Airis Langage Agentrie/Foras na Gaeilge, an the Ulster-Scots Agentrie. The Agentries fordres the Airis langage an Ulster-Scots langage an cultur, respective. The Buird o the Langage Curn is taen on frae the NSMC. The Preses o Foras na Gaeilge is Mr Liam Ó Maoilmhichíl. The Preses o the Ulster-Scots Agentrie is Mr Tom Scott. Mr Ó Maoilmhichíl an Mr Scott is jint Preses o the Langage Curn.

2.10.2 The ar 15 ithers members on the Buird o Foras na Gaeilge an 7 ithers members on the Buird o the Ulster-Scots Agentrie. Thir kythes in Annex Three. Mr Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh is the Heid Executive o Foras na Gaeilge. Ms Hazel Campbell wis the Heid Executive Umwhiel o the Ulster-Scots Agentrie til Julie 2011. Mr Ian Crozier taen up the poseition in Julie 2011. Farder details kythes at www.forasnagaeilge.ie an www.ulsterscotsagency.com

2.10.3 The war twa NSMC Langage forgaitheirs in 2011 on 7 Julie an 12 October. The forgaitheirs haen at thaim Jimmy Deenihan TD, Meinister for the Airts, Heirship an

the Gaeltacht, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister for Cultur, the Airts an Leisur, Dinny McGinley TD, Meinister o Staet wi byordinar responsalitie for Gaeltacht Daeins, an OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell MLA.

2.10.4 Meinisters taen in progress reports frae the Preses an CEOs o the baith agentries. Heid uncums taakit ower compreh endit:

- ongan jint wark atween Foras na Gaeilge an the Ulster-Scots Agentrie anent the lectur series “Aspects o our Skaert Heirship” comprehendan a new lectur anent the historie o the langages dealan wi the Flicht o the Yerls, the Plauntation o Ulster an thair linguistic effects;
- proveision o jint wittins staunds at the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann, Castlewellan Agricultur Shaws, the Stormont Faimlie Fun Day an the Boccia World Cup, an buskins for a jint cultur showcase in Belfast uphauddan the twynin o Listowel, Co Kerry an Dounpatrick, Co Down;

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- implement frae Foras na Gaeilge o the accreditin scheme for editors, comprehendan outgie o byordinar trainin an ongan oncum frae Foras na Gaeilge o the national database o terms (www.focal.ie);
- deliverie frae the Ulster-Scots Agentrie o muisic/daunce lear tae ower 8,000 pairttakkars throu the peripatetic tutor program an 31 Ulster-Scots commontie simmer schemes;
- the completion o the owerleuk o Áis, the beuk furthgie service o Foras na Gaeilge. Meinsters speirt at Foras na Gaeilge, wad hit gree a detailt implement ploy wi the sponsor depairtments anent the recommends in the owerleuk o Áis an gie a report anent progress tae the NSMC;
- the owerleuk o the Ulster-Scots Agentries finance assistance scheme; an
- the Foras na Gaeilge owerleuk o its coer-fundit curns. Progress wis taen tent o anent the buskin o a portfolio o scrows o schemes for the new competitive fundin model, at wad hae the ettil o the acheiv o a mukkil benefits relate tae vailyie for siller an the effective outgie o Foras na Gaeilges statutor prestations. The Council askit Foras na Gaeilge tae:
 - a) tak foer a farder twal-week speirin anent the portfolio o scrows o schemes, pairticular wi the coer fundit curns;
 - b) mak siccar at relevant statutor curns bes gien the inlet for tae think on the impact o the scrows o schemes anent thair ain airts o wirkin;
 - c) chynge the portfolio o scrows o schemes as necessar an appropriate, takkan tent tae the braider speirins process;
 - d) busk a detailt business case, an necessar wi undependan assistance, for tae uphauld the portfolio o scrows o schemes; an
 - e) busk a revised project ploy, along wi the sponsor depairtments, at will tak tent tae the completion o the owerleuk process as a clamant maiter.

Byordinar EU Programs



Left tae richt: Sammy Wilson MP, MLA, Meinister o Finance an Personnel, OFMDFM Junior Meinister Martina Anderson MLA, Brendan Howlin TD, Meinister for Public Expenditur an Reform, Michael Noonan TD, Meinister for Finance an Pat Colgan, CEO, Byordinar EU Programs Curn (SEUPB), at the NSMC SEUPB forgaither in Armagh on 18 Julie 2011.

2.11.1 The meision o the Byordinar European Union Programs Curn (SEUPB) is tae effective manage an implement fundin programs awnan tae the twa Governements an the European Union, ettitl at the outgie o social an economic impruivments tae the fowk in Norlin Airlan an Airlan throu athort-mairch, transnational an inter-regional wirkin thegaiter. The Heid Executive o the SEUPB is Mr Pat Colgan. Farder details kythes at www.seupb.eu

2.11.2 NSMC Byordinar European Programs forgaithers cam aff in 2011 on the 13 Januar, 18 Julie an 21 November. Sammy Wilson MP, MLA, Meinister for Finance an Personnel, Alex Attwood MLA, Meinister for Social Oncum an Brian Lenihan TD, Meinister for Finance cam tae the 13 Januar forgaither, The 18 Julie forgaither haen at it Michael Noonan TD, Meinister o Finance, Brendan Howlin TD, Meinister for Public Sector Expenditur an Reform, Sammy Wilson MP, MLA, Meinister for Finance an Personnel, an Junior Meinister Martina Anderson MLA. The 21 November forgaither haen at it Sammy Wilson MP MLA, Meinister for Finance an Personnel, Brendan Howlin TD, Meinister for Public

Expenditur an Reform, an Alex Attwood MLA, Meinister o the Environs.

2.11.3 At ilka forgaither the Council taen in a progress report frae the Heid Executive anent the daeins o the Byordinar EU Programs Curn. Heid oncums taakit ower comprehendit:

- the steekin o the PEACE II an INTERREG IIIA Programs;
- progress on the implement o the PEACE III an INTERREG IVA Programs on the pruvuin o applications an appruiv o projects. Frae November 2011, SEUPB hid gien appruiv tae 149 projects wi a wirth o €262m unner the PEACE III Program an expenditur wis €94m. In the ae tym, 64 projects wi a wirth o €181m wis efter a-giean appruiv unner the INTERREG IVA Program an expenditur wis €55m. Haemlie autoritie-foundit groups haen 19 INTERREG IVA projects gien appruiv wi a wirth o €24 million. It wis taen tent

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Furthpit o the Peace Brig ower the River Foyle at taen in fundin o €14 million frae the SEUPB PEACE III Program.

- at SEUPB wad gae on wirkan wi the groups for tae bring farder projects on;
- a series daeins put in frae SEUPB, comprehendan transfers o siller athin INTERREG IVA tae meisurs as wad lea funds be maed uiss o quicker, wi the poseition a-owerleukan in Januar 2012;
- the wark o the SEUPB for tae faceilitate North South pairttakkin in the INTERREG IV transnational an interregional programs. In 2011, SEUPB maed siccar 55 project pairtners athort the relevant programs; an
- communication frae the SEUPB o the positive impacts o the EU Programs wi heich profiel events monie wi Meinisterlie inpit comprehendan the launch o the PEACE Brig on 25 Juin 2011 an pairttakkin in the EU Open Days week in Brussels.

Traed an Business Oncum



Left tae richt: David Dobbin, Preses, InterTradelreland, Richard Bruton TD, Meinister for Jobs, Enterprise an Innovation, Arlene Foster MLA, Meinister o Enterprise, Traed an Investment, John O'Dowd MLA, Meinister o Lear, an Liam Nellis, CEO, InterTradelreland at the NSMC Traed an Business Oncum forgaiher in Armagh on 25 Julie 2011.

2.12.1 The Traed an Business Oncum Curn, cryed InterTradelreland, wis sat up for the niffer o wittins an for tae co-ordinate wark anent traed, business oncum, an relate maiters, in airts whaur the twa administrations kenspekkil grees it wad be in thair lyk interest. InterTradelreland haes a Buird o 12 members taen on frae the NSMC. On 13 December 2011 Mr Martin Cronin an Ms Joanne Spain cam efter Dr David Dobbin an Mr John Fitzgerald as Preses an Preses depute respective. The Buird members thenou kythes in Annex Three. The Heid Executive o InterTradelreland is Mr Liam Nellis. Farder details kythes at www.InterTradelreland.com

2.12.2 A NSMC Traed an Business Oncum forgaiher wis helt in Armagh on 25 Julie 2011. Richard Bruton TD, Meinister for Jobs, Enterprise an Innovation, Arlene Foster MLA, Meinister for Enterprise, Traed an Investment, an John O'Dowd MLA, Meinister for Lear, cam tae this forgaiher.

Meinisters taen in progress reports frae the Preses an Heid Executive anent the daeins o InterTradelreland. Thir comprehendit:

- progress on Wirkin Thegaiher on Innovation. InterTradelreland wis efter pittan pairttakkin graith til the upbig o collaborative pairttakkin on the EU Resairch, Technological Oncum an Innovation Fraemwark Program, an for tae bring on an ear alert seistem for potential propoens wirkan neirhaund wi Invest NI, Airlans National Uphauld Network for FP7, business, an academia. Initiatives comprehendit traivel vouchers for thaim as bes bringan on North South applications an onlien pairtner identification;
- InterTradelreland an the Europeean Commeision office in Belfast jint put on the 'Collaborate tae Innovate' confearance on 30 Juin 2011 in Belfast. The ettil o this confearance wis the upbig o lyk pairttakkin thegaiher in Fraemwark programs, thenou an in the futur, frae growin the veisibilitie o resairch an innovation, growin North-South jint wark, an gien impetus for mair wirkin thegaiher wi airts aa ower Euroep. Ower 200 pairttakkars wis gien rede anent the wey o gettan tae an

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- biggan up thair success raet, an makkan siccar o fundin, an thay war gien inlets for netwirkin o vailyie;
- at the 2011 wire (Week of Innovative Regions in Europe) confearance in Hungarie, InterTradelreland daen the coordinate o a exhibition airt, at pruiwed geyn successfu wi monie fowk cumman frae ither airts, settan an interest furth in cumman pairtners in Airts o Knowledge applications;
- InterTradelreland wis efter faan tae a studdie for tae wirk out the characteristics o a Innovation Ecosystem aa ower Norlin Airlan an Airlan, at wad pit enterprise at its mids, an at wad mak siccar creative ideas could be commercialised;
- the hid been 8 successfu pairtnerie projects unner the US-Airlan Resairch an Oncum Pairtnerie wi a jint vailyie o £13m/€15m;
- return tae Investment ower InterTradelrelands portfolio o Traed an Innovation Programs for 2011 wis 16.5:1; an
- generation in 2011 o £119.8m/€146.1m o Business Vailyie frae companies pairttakkan on InterTradelrelands Traed an Innovation Programs.

ANNEX ANE: List o NSMC Forgaithers in 2011

In the buird ablo kythes the NSMC forgaithers, as wis helt in 2011:

NSMC Forgaither	Date	Place
Plenarie	21 Januar	Armagh
	10 Juin	Dublin
	18 November	Armagh
Institutionlie	3 October	Stormont Castle
Agricultur	26 Julie	Loughrie Campus
	26 October	Armagh
Lear	21 Januar	Armagh
	21 September	Armagh
Environs	1 Julie	Armagh
	21 October	Armagh
Halth an Meat Sauftie	20 Julie	Armagh
Tourism	3 Februar	Armagh
Transport	9 Februar	Armagh
	21 October	Armagh
Aquacultur & Marine	4 Julie	Armagh
	14 October	Armagh
Inlan Watterweys	7 Julie	Armagh
	12 October	Armagh
Langage	7 Julie	Armagh
	12 October	Armagh
Byordinar EU Programs	13 Januar	Stormont
	18 Julie	Armagh
	21 November	Armagh
Traed & Business Oncum	25 Julie	Armagh

ANNEX TWA: North-South Ministerial Council Jint Secretariat

The North-South Ministerial Council (NSMC) is upheld frae a staundan Jint Secretariat wi wirkars frae members o the Norlin Airlan Ceivil Service an the Airis Ceivil Service. The Office o the First Meinister an First Meinister depute (OFMDFM) is the parent Department o the Norlin Airlan ceivil servants an the Department o Fremmit Daeins an Traed (DFAT) is the parent Department o the Airis ceivil servants.

Mary Bunting is the Jint Secretar (North) an Margaret Stanley Jint Secretar depute (South). Margaret is Jint Secretar umwhiel thenou, takkan ower frae Anne Barrington, at wis Jint Secretar (South) tae November 2011. The tither Jint Secretar depute is Pat Donaghy (North).

FUNCTIONS

The functions o the Jint Secretariat comprehends:

- arreingean the schedule o Council forgaithers in differan formats;
- makkan siccar foer poleitical greeance tae agendas for forgaithers o the Council;
- buskan or makkan commesions for paipers for forgaithers o the Council, comprehendan thaim relate tae its wark program;

- makkan scrows o Jint Communiqués an Records o Deceisions o the Council;
- settan deceisions o the Council furth an monitoran thair implement;
- makkan a scrow o a yearlie report anent the daeins o the Council;
- wirkan as a channel o communication wi Implement Curns;
- liaisean, whaur appropriate, throu the designate Department or Office in aither stewartrie, wi the Secretariat o the Brits-Airis Intergovrenment Confeerance, the Secretariat o the Brits-Airis Council an wi the North/South jint pairlamentar forum an undependan speirin forum whan sat up; an
- cairiean sic ither darg out at the Council coud pit foer.

FUNDIN

- Wirkars costs is won tae frae OFMDFM an DFAT. Aa ither costs associate wi the Jint Secretariat an the NSMC is claucht atween the twa admeinstrations. The cost o the rinnin o the Jint Secretariat in 2011 cam up tae £1,668,625/€1,890,025.



In pictur wi Mary Bunting, Jint Secretar, Pat Donaghy, Jint Secretar depute, an John Boyd. Jint Secretariat, is students frae the Southern Regional College.

ANNEX THREE: Buid Members o North South Curns

MEAT SAUFTIE FORDER BUIRD: BUIRD O REDE

Lynn Ní Bhaoighealláin (Preses)

Darina Allen (Preses depute)

Julie Andrews

Thomas Burns

Brendan Kehoe

Alan McGrath

Helen O'Donnell

Edward Spellman

Hannah Su

Campbell Tweedie

Mary Upton

Jane Wells

NORTH-SOUTH LANGAGE CURN: FORAS NA GAELIGE

Liam Ó Maoilmhichíl

(Preses o Foras na Gaelige/Jint Preses o An Foras Teanga)

Eoghain Mac Cormaic (Preses depute)

Pól Callaghan

Colm Cavanagh

Áine Ní Chiaráin

Bríd Ní Chonghoile

Liam Kennedy

Seosamh Mac Donnchadha

Tomás Mac Eochagáin

Marcus Mac Ruairí

Seán Mícheal Ó Dómhnaill

Dónal Ó hAiniféin

Therese Ruane

Tomás Sharkey

Cáitríona Ní Shúilleabháin

ULSTER-SCOTS AGENTRIE

Tom Scott

(Preses o the Ulster-Scots Agentrie/Jint Preses o North-South Langage Curn)

Tony Crooks (Preses depute)

Ida Fisher

William Leathaim

Val O'Kelly

Hilary Singleton

Sharon Treacy-Dunne

Trevor Wilson

THE FOYLE, CAIRLINFORD AN AIRIS LICHTS COMMEISION

Winston Patterson (Preses)

Alan McCulla (Preses depute)

Andrew Duncan

Phil Mahon

Joe Millar

Michael J McCormick

Theresa McLaverty

Tarlach O Crosain

Seamus Rogers

Thomas Sloan

Donal Tipping

Jim Wilson



ANNEX TWA: North-South Ministerial Council Joint Secretariat

THE TRADED AN BUSINESS ONCUM CURN

Martin Cronin (Preses)

Joanne Spain (Preses depute)

Brendan Butler

Jake Gallagher

Ray Hayden

Hubert Brown Kerr

Timothy Mayes

Bridget Meehan

Patricia McKeown

Kevin Norton

Mairead Sorensen

TOURISM IRELAND LIMITED

Brian Ambrose (Preses)

Jim Flannery (Preses depute)

Ciara Boyle

Denis Cregan

Shaun Quinn

Howard Hastings

John Healy

David Lyle

Christoph Mueller

Elaine Murphy

Derek Rainey

David Rodway

