

North-South Council o Meinisters

2012 Yearlie Report



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FOERWIRD

The war 31 forgaithers o the North-South Council o Meinisters (NSMC) in 2012, the heichmaist nummer in onie aefauld year syne its upset. This brocht the ower aa nummer NSMC forgaithers frae Devolution in 2007 tae thenou tae ae hunner ane-an-thirtie.

Positive an hairtsom relations atween the Airis Govrenment an Executive Meinisters wis kenspekkil mairks o thir forgaithers. Meinisters taen the inlets gien for tae owersee the wark o the North-South Curns an for tae mak siccar progress anent the greed Airts o Jint Wirkin ettilt at farder jint wirkin on the islan.

Heid maiters in 2012 comprehendit wark for tae mak aibil the twa-airt ken o penaltie pynts athort the baith stewartries, the successfu forder o mukkil tourism initiatives the lyk o 'ni2012, our tym our place', buskin o 'The Gathering 2013' an the 'UK Ceitie o Cultur 2013', bairn uphauld an Common Agricultur Policie (CAP) an beist an plaunt heal.

Executive Meinisters wis gien a briefin frae Airis Meinisters anent thair govrenments foerhaund ettils for Airlans Presidence o the EU in 2013 an gien wittins anent ongan plannin an buskin. This will be the first tym Airlan is hauldin the EU Presidence whaniver the NSMC institution bes fou wirkan, an hit gies a inlet for tae mak deeper colloques on maiters o lyk fordel.

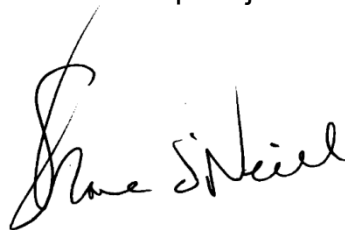
The organisein o North-South forgaithers is a mukkil logistical challenge for the NSMC wirkars wi the plannin begoud months afoer, an takkan in the PSNI, the Gardaí, Executive Wittins Services, Privat Meinisterial Offices an offeicials frae the Office o the First Meinister an First Meinister depute, the Depairtment o the Taoiseach an ither Govrenment Depairtments North an South. The new NSMC biggin has gien a haund wi bringan doun the siller nott for the forgaithers wi fouwer-an-twintie o ane-an-thrirtie forgaithers a-hauldan in the accommodation, takkan in ae Pleenarie.

In 2012, the war a mukkil chynges in boadies athin the Jint Secretariat forby, wi baith o us new tae the poseition o Jint Secretar. We ar for peyan tribute tae Mary Bunting, at gien ower bean Norlin Jint Secretar efter sax year in the post in September 2012, an Pat Donaghy, at gien ower in Julie efter a twal year tym bean Norlin Jint Secretar Depute. We gie thanks tae baith Mary an Pat for aa thair wark wi the North-South Council o Meinisters, an ar howpan thay hae aa success in the futur. We ar for giean a walcum tae Donal Moran anaa, at taen ower frae Pat bean Norlin Secretar Depute.

At last an lang, 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 mukkil help an jint wirkin in 2012.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Colm Shannon'.

Colm Shannon
Jint Secretar (North)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Shane O'Neill'.

Shane O'Neill
Jint Secretar (South)

CHAIPTER AE: NSMC PLEENARIE FORGATHERS



Eamonn Gilmore TD, Tánaiste an Meinister for Fremmit Daeins an Traed, the Rt Hon Peter Robinson MLA, First Meinister, Enda Kenny TD, Taoiseach an Martin McGuinness MLA, First Meinister depute at the Juin Pleenarie Forgaither in Dublin

NSMC Pleenarie Forgaithers

The NSMC Pleenarie forgaithers is a importan pairt o the wark o the North-South Council o Meinisters an gies a inlet for Executive Meinisters tae gaither wi thair counterparts in the Airis govrnment. The war twa NSMC Pleenarie forgaithers in 2012, the first on 25 Juin in Farmleigh House, Dublin an the seicont on 2 November 2012 at the NSMC Jint Secretariat Biggins in Armagh. On the baith tymys the Airis Govrnement delegation wis heidit frae the Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD an the Norlin Airlan Executive delegation wis heidit frae the First Meinister, the Rt Hon Peter Robinson MLA, an the First Meinister depute, Martin McGuinness MLA. The Jint Communiques gien out efter thir forgaithers kythes at www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org.

Lyk the laev o the warld economie, the baith stewartries staunds foernent mukkil economic challenges. The wey govrnements bes dealan wi thir challenges wis a importan pairt o the colloques at Pleenarie forgaithers. Pairticular, Meinisters taakit over the challenges afoer athin the bankin sector, Corporation Cess an the impact o NAMA on the baith stewartries. Meinisters taen tent o the import o the biggin o traed links wi ither kintras forby, the lyk o China, an kent at the ar aiblans lyk fordels frae the wirkin thegither, an daean siclyk.

The war the donse, at the November Pleenarie forgaitheer wis owershaddaed wi the gruesom murder o the Preison Officear David Black on his wey tae the wark the morn afoer. The baith Govrenments taen the inlet for tae set thair jint condemnin furth o thaim, as daen this atroceitie, an put foer thair determination at lyk daeins sudna be lat draig us bak tae the past.

Jint Secretars Progress Report

The Pleenarie Forgaitheers gien a inlet anaa for the Jint Secretars tae gie progress reports anent the wark taen foer frae the NSMC throu the year. Foerhaund heidins comprehendit:

- the wark for tae mak aibil the lyk ken o penaltie pynts athort the baith stewartries;
- successfu forder o a mukkil Tourism Initiatives the lyk o ni2012 'our time our place', 'The Gathering' an 'UK Ceitie o Cultur';
- progress anent EU Programs ongan thenou, an the wark ongan anent the oncum o futur programs;
- the jint lear survey in the Mairches;
- propoens for the owerleuk o coer fundit curns as bes a-takkan on frae Foras na Gaeilge;
- Ulster Canal;
- bairn uphauld;
- beist an plaunt heal; an
- Common Agricultur Policie (CAP).

Tourism

Tourism an the upbiggin o the nummer veisitars tae the islan is vital tae the economie in the baith stewartries. Meinisters leukit ower the wark o Tourism Ireland an thair ettils at bringan mair veisitars tae the Islan wi twathree mukkil tourism initiatives cumman aff, comprehendan NI 2012 'our time our place', 'the Gathering' 2013 an the 'Cecie o Cultur' Celebrations in 2013. Baith Tourism Meinisters is wirkan eydent for tae mak siccar thir initiatives bes a success an Tourism Ireland is at the mercatin o thir events in fremmit launds.

North West Yettwey Initiative

At the Juin forgaitheer Meinisters gien thocht tae a progress report anent the North West Yettwey Initiative an taen tent o details o graith put foer/gien out in the North West Airt. In November, Meinisters taen tent at a forgaitheer o offeicals wad cum aff for tae think on progress.

A5 an A8 Raas

At the Juin forgaither Meinisters gien appruive tae a fundin an implement ploy for the A5 an A8 raas projects an taen tent at the Airis Govrenment bes aa for this project yet.

St Andras Greeans Owerleuk

Meinisters gaed wi a nummer recommends relaet tae the North-South Curns, as wis efter a-bringan tae the forgaither efter a-thinkan on at NSMC Sectoral forgaithers. The gaein wi o thir recommends brocht first element o the Owerleuk maistlie tae an end. At the November forgaither Ministes greed at Heid Offeicials wad gaither, an bring foer propoens anent the laev o the elements o the Owerleuk.

North-South Speirin Forum

The poseition o the North-South Speirin Forum thenou wis taakit ower at the baith Pleenarie forgaithers. Meinisters greed at this wad be leukit at ance mair at a futur Pleenarie forgaither.

North-South Pairlamentar Forum/ North-South Inter-Parlamentar Associe

The North-South Inter-Parlamentar Associe is efter a-settan up nou, an hit helt its inaugural Pleenarie session on 12 October 2012. Meinisters gien a walcum tae the upset o the Associe an buid the Speakar tae the Assemblie an the Ceann Comhairle aa guid wishes.

CHAIPTER TWA: NSMC INSTITUTIONAL FORGAITHERS



The Rt Hon Peter Robinson MLA, First Minister, Eamonn Gilmore TD, Tánaiste an Meinister for Fremmit Daeins an Traed an Martin McGuinness MLA, First Minister depute at the Apryle Institutional Forgaither in Dublin.

The NSMC forgaithert in Institutional format on 27 Apryle 2012 in the Royal Spittal, Kilmainham, Dublin. The Tánaiste an Meinister for Fremmit Daeins an Traed, Eamon Gilmore TD, First Minister the Rt Hon Peter Robinson MLA an the First Minister depute Martin McGuinness MLA, cam tae the forgaither. A copie o the Jint Communique sat furth efter the forgaither kythes at www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org

Meinisters haen a niffer o norries anent the economic situation thenou an the budgetar challenges, an taakit ower inlets for tae big on jint wirkin thenou, particular anent the economie, service outgie an tourism. The forgaither haen at its foer anaa inlets for tae mak the maist o tourism uppits throu 2012 an 2013 comprehendan 'ni2012 Our Time - Our Place', Derrie~Londonderrie UK Ceitie o Cultur an 'The Gathering 2013'.

North West Yettwey Initiative

Progress wis gien a walcum on a reinge initiatives as bes ettilt at the outpit o economic an social fordels in the North West, comprehendan:

- the Norlin Airlan Executives Program for Govrenment commeitment for tae bring on the Ane Ploy for Derrie ~ Londonderrie;

- wark thegither atween the Derrie Ceitie Council an the Dinnygal Countie Council for tae bring on synergies atween the Ane Ploy an An Stráteis, the Dinnygal Countie Oncum Ploy;
- biggin o the new £70m Radiotherapie Unit at Altnagelvin ettilt at beginnan in 2013 an a-wirkan frae 2016;
- commitment tae the upgraed o twa streaks o the A5 wi NA Executive fundin o £330m, comprehendan the Airis Govrenments commitment o £50m;
- commitment tae thenou o ower €120m frae EU Programs in the North West comprehendan the flagship projects the lyk o the €30m Project Kelvin an €16m Peace Brig;
- commitment tae mak the maist o the economic tourism abeilitie o the Ceitie o Cultur an the Gathering 2013. The Norlin Airlan Executive haes sat out £12.6m, sae bean the necessar business cases hae appruiv an be aa daen, for tae uphauld the outpit o the Ceitie o Cultur program, comprehendan the hostin o the Turner Prize, Stirlin Prize an Aa Airlan Fleadh; an
- the North West wis allocat £18.5m unner Axis 3 o the Norlin Airlan Laundart Oncum Program.

It wis greed for tae leuk ower progress on the North West Yettwey Initiative ance mair at the neist NSMC Institutional forgaitheir.

North-South Curns an Tourism Ireland Ltd Maiters

The war a collogue anaa anent maiters relaet tae the North-South Curns, comprehendan progress anent Corporat an Business Ploys, implement o cumulative effeiciencie hainins, an the ongan owerleuk o the Curns Finance Memoranda.

The Meinisters taen tent at Liam Nellis, Heid Executive o Inter*Tradel*Ireland, wis for retirean an gien him thanks for his inpit tae the wark o Inter*Tradel*Ireland.

St Andras Greeans Owerleuk

Meinisters haen colloques anent progress on thocht gien at NSMC forgaitheirs o a nummer propoens anent the North-South Curns. Thay leukit foer tae farder collogue anent this, an on the tither pairs o the St Andras Greeans Owerleuk at the ongan NSMC Pleenarie forgaitheirs.

CHAPTER THREE: NSMC SECTORAL FORGAITHERS

This chapter gives a summary of NSMC forgaithers in sectoral format in 2012. The Joint Communiqués from these forgaithers are at

www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org

Agricultur



NSMC Agricultur forgaithers cam aff on 8 Februar, 25 Julie an 31 October 2012. Michelle O'Neill MLA, Meinister o Agricultur an Laundart Oncum an Simon Coveney TD, Meinister for Agricultur, Meat an the Marine cam tae aa the three forgaithers. Phil Hogan TD, Meinister for the Environs, Commontie an Local Govrenment cam tae the Julie an October forgaithers. Sammy Wilson MP MLA, Meinister for Finance an Personnel cam tae the Julie forgaither an OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell MLA, cam tae the Februar an October forgaithers.

At the October forgaither, Meinisters haen a niffer o thochts anent the quaistion o ferm sauftie, an sat thair seimpathie furth wi faimlies bereaved efter tragic affcums throu the year.

Jint Wirkin anent Beist Heal

A Memorandum o Unnerstaundin anent the fen o the islan Airlan frae exotic beist disease incum wis greed. The MOU pits foer the comemitment tae heid principls in the Aa-Islan Beist Heal an Walfaur Strategie. Hit sets out the principls for a-gan wi athort the islan for tae help hault aff the incum an spreid o exotic beist diseases throu aither stewartrie, an for tae mak siccar the owerans applead athort the islan.

Progress anent the deliverie o the 2011/12 Aa-Islan Beist Heal an Walfaur Strategie Action Ploy wis gien a walcum, comprehendan:

- achieve o Aujeszky's Disease free status athort the islan Airlan, at will open up farder export inlets for the gryce sector;
- the endin o a scowthin paiper anent foerhaund ettils in aa-islan beist disease owerleuk;
- ongan neirhaund liaison throu haundlins wi the EU Commeision anent the propoent new EU Beist Heal Laa;
- greeans frae offeicials for tae leuk tae bring intae lien dealar register seistems;
- the hostin o a international vaccination experts scientific seimposium in Mey 2012 in Belfast, at gien thocht tae the abeilitie for vaccination tae hae tae dae wi the remuive o TB in kye;
- a successfu jint athort-mairch cairtin pruiw "Exercise Mirrormap3" helt on 29 Februar 2012;
- ongan jint wirkin atween offeicials anent industrie-heidit ettils anent production diseases no tae dae wi national owerans programs the lyk o BVD;
- the settin up o a industrie-heidit curn, Beist Heal an Walfaur NA, at will tak foer initiatives for tae deal wi sic diseases; an
- greeans anent reciprocal arrynges atween industrie curns north an south, at wis signed frae Beist Heal Airlan an Beist Heal an Walfaur NA.

Common Agricultur Policie (CAP) an International Traed Maiters

Meinisters taakit ower the mukkil maiters a-dae wi haundlins anent the reform o the Common Agricultur Policie (CAP). The foerhaund maiters comprehends the outgie o the CAP budget tae Member Staets, the muive tae a flat raet payment athin Member Staets or airts, an the lyk inbring o a greenin pairt tae the Pillar 1 budget.

The Council taen tent at a EU greeans coud be won tae in the Airis EU Presidence in the first haaf o 2013 an kent the strang cleeks atween the Agricultur Depairtments on the heid maiters. Meinisters an offeicials will gae on wi neirhaund contact ettilt at the upbig o fordel tae fermars an laundart commonties in the baith stewartries.

Meinisters taen tent o oncum anent climat chynge confeerances anaa. Oncums an inlets on international traed, comprehendan the agri-meat industries strang record o export-heidit growth, wis a importan focus for the forgaithers. The Council taakit ower prospects for the oncum o agri-meat links atween China an Airlan in airts the lyk o beist heal, horse studies, research an traed anaa.

The foercumman reform o the Common Fisheries Policie (CFP) wis taakit ower an Meinisters greed at offeicials o the baith Agricultur Depairtments will bied in

neirhaund contact for tae mak siccar at skaert ettils for fisheries reform bes gien
representin tae the biggest reinge aibil in the end greeans.

Lear



Primarie schuil pupils makkan uiss o deigital technologies as a pairt o thair ilkaday learnin bes nou forordinar.

The war three NSMC Lear forgaithers throu 2012 on 1 Mairch, 15 Juin an 17 October. John O'Dowd MLA, Meinister for Lear, Ruairí Quinn TD, Meinister for Lear an Skeils an Nelson McCausland MLA, Meinister for Social Oncum cam tae aa forgaithers.

Lear Survey in the Mairches

Meinisters kent the import o the faceilitatin o whit parents wad leifer hae anent the pairttakkin in schuils, an sae daean thay taen tent o the chynge in population on the baith sieds o the mairch an the wey this could hae an impact tae schuils. Takkan tent o thir maiters, Meinisters taakit ower the wey thae parents, as wis for daean it, could be lat send thair bairns tae schuils on the tither sied o the mairch. Thay greed tae tak on a jint attitude survey for tae gie wittins anent athort-mairch scholar muivein an schuil plannin. This wad help wi the outwirkin o schuilin capaceitie an need in the Mairches thenou an in the futur, an o the leevel o demaund frae parents an yung fowk for schuils athort the mairch, an o the wey obstacles could be taen awa. The Meinisters greed at a last report anent the outcums an propoens anent the wey afoer will kythe for a-thinkan on no laeter nor the first NSMC Lear forgaither o 2013.

Lear for Bairns wi Byordinar Lear Needs

Meinisters greed tae a leimitit outbiggin o services gien out frae the Middletoun Centre for Autism wi a focus tae makkan siccar a upheld futur for the Centre, an

gien thair uphault tae jint efforts for tae mak siccar the greed outbiggin is gien out sae shuin as aibil.

The Council gien a walcum tae the recent furthsat report anent the jint inspectin o the Centre frae the Depairtment o Lear an Skeils Inspectorat an the Lear an Trainin Inspectorat.

Dominie Qualifications

The Council gien a walcum tae the ongan liaison atween the twa Dominie Councils anent maiters relaet tae professional ken an register in the baith stewartries, an at the baith Councils wark tae thenou his haen its focus on mobilitie, accreditin an ken o dominies qualifications in a athort-mairch context. The oweraa ettil wad be the faceilitatin o fou mobilitie o dominies athort the baith stewartries.

Ongan colloques cam aff anaa atween Marino College o Lear, Dublin, the Vairisite Ulster an St Marys Vairsitie College, Belfast, anent the abeilitie for the furthpit o the Scrúdú Cailíochta sa Ghaeilge (the Airis langage qualification), an anent haundlins taen on frae the North-South Dominie Qualifications Wirkin Group for tae bring foer the maiter.

Meinisters taen tent at the deceision frae Depairtments for tae bring on the jint fundit collaborative program o wark in the Airis-medium sector for the 2012/13 academic year.

Schuil, Youth an Dominie Niffers

The Council taen tent o the successfu 10t Staundin Confeerance anent Dominie Lear, North an South (SCoTENS) Yearlie Confeerance at cam aff in Cavan on 11-12 October 2012 on the theme o 'Creative Dominies for Creative Learners: Implications for Dominie Lear', an the follae-up evailyiein report anent the first 8 year o SCoTENS.

Meinisters kent the ongan wark for the implement o the recommends sat out in the jint inspectorat evailyiein report o the Dissolvein Bounds project.

The Council gien a walcum tae the ongan jint uphault for the Causey Program an the North-South Lear an Trainin Staundarts Comatee for Youth Wark in Airlan.

Meinisters wis gien a briefin anent colloques ongan atween the Depairtment o Lear an Depairtment o Lear an Skeils offeicials for tae bring on Pairt 2 o the study anent North-South wirkin thegaiter in the lear sector. Thay speirt efter a progress report for tae be maed at the first NSMC forgaiter in 2013.

Lear Unner-Achieve

At the October 2012 forgaiter, Meinisters taen in a detailt presentin anent the wark a-daeen frae the Lear Unner-achieve Wirkin Group (EUWG) in the airts o Leiteracie an Numeracie. Thay taen tent at the Group forgaitert on 4 September 2012 for tae leuk ower an gae on wi its program o wark.

Meinisters taen tent anaa at the baith Depairtments upheld Maths week in 2012 an at collogues atween offeicials gae on anent the skaerin o best practice anent attendin an retention.

The Council gien a walcum tae the EUWGs speirin wi Bairns Beuks Airlan anent the abeilitie for a propoen for the forder o yung teenagers ontakkin in the readin.

Environs



The war three NSMC Environs forgaithers in 2012 on the 2 Mairch, 15 Juin an the 31 October. Phil Hogan TD, Meinister for the Environs, Commontie an Local Govrenment an Alex Attwood MLA, Meinister o the Environs cam tae aa three forgaithers. Danny Kennedy MLA, Meinister for Regional Oncum cam tae the Mairch an Juin forgaithers an OFMDFM Junior Meinister, Jonathan Bell cam tae the October forgaither.

EU Maiters

Meinisters taakit ower the environs sector foerhaund ettils for Airlans Presidence o the European Union in 2013 an leukit foer tae the no formal forgaither o the Council o EU Environs Meinisters in Dublin in Apryle 2013.

Affpit Management

The ongan jint wirkin atween offeicials, comprehendan the skaerin o lessons learnt an best practice an the bringin in an admeinisterin o the plastic bag cess in Airlan, haen a mukkil inpit tae the oncum o a carrieair bag cess in Norlin Airlan.

Meinisters taen tent tae the furthset frae the Meinister for the Environs, Commontie an Local Govrenment o a new affpit management policie for Airlan: *A Graith Inlet – Affpit Management Policie in Airlan*.

The new Preses, David Surplus, o the North-South Mercat Oncum Steerin Group wis gien a walcum frae Meinisters. He is for a-giean a inviet for tae gie Meinisters a updaet o progress at a futur NSMC Environs forgaither.

A presentin o the 'Aa Islan Bulkie Affpit Reuiss Best Practice Management Feasibeilitie Study' wis gien a walcum frae Meinisters. The Council gien a walcum tae meisurs a-takkan foerairt for tae big on the 'Airis Recyclet Plastic Affpit Ariseins Study'. The Plastics Recyclein Business Forum helt in Dublin in Januar 2012 wis a foerhaund ensaumple o this wark.

The owerleuks in the baith stewartries o policies anent the management o affpit tyrs an the inlet for mair links on aa-islán founs ettilt at makkan the maist o environs fordels, an pittan no legal operators aff, wis gien a walcum frae the Council. Forby, Meinisters wis gien reed at consultants taen on frae the Depairtment o the Environs, Commontie an Local Govrenment is for guidean a owerleuk o the 'Producear Responsibeilitie Initiative Model' in Airlan. This will pruiw the structur an environs outcums o the seistem thenou for dealan wi uised tyrs, an pruiw airts for mair jint wirkin wi the Depairtment o the Environs anaa. A last report on a aa-islán tyr survey, heidit frae the Depairtment o the Environs, will lyk be aa daen gin the years end.

Athort Mairch Muivements o Affpit

It wis put foer at the remuive o affpit frae a steid at Ballymartin, Kilkeel, wis successfu daen in October 2011, an at aa the claucht tonnage o affpit taen awa frae steids tae thenou at Ballymartin, Slattinagh an Trillick wis in or aroun 49,000 tonnes. Twa steids in Clogher, Countie Tyrone, (Seskinore an Eskra), is efter a-greean for the 2012-2013 haembringin program. Wark is aa daen at the Seskinore steid, an preliminar warks is efter a-stairtan up at Eskra.

The Dublin Ceitie Council is efter settan a Fraemwark Greeans up for the Dispoen o Repatriat Affpit. The Ceitie Council is stairtit wi the buskin o tender screeds afoer a public procurein process for the haulage o outtaen affpit tae authorised dispoen faceilities frae 2013 an efter.

The Council taen tent at jint enforcein daeins for tae deal wi no legal operators is a foerhaund ettil for the baith Environs Meinisters, an Depairtments gaes on wi pittan graith tae this maiter.

Watter Qualitie

The North-South Wirkin Group anent Watter Qualitie will gae on dryvan an owerseean coordinat implement o the River Basin Management Ploys unner the EU Watter Fraemwark Directive. Meinisters wis gien wittins at the Wirkin Group will tak in regular updaets, an necessar, anent EU policie oncums in the airt o watter qualitie, as coud cum up throu Airlans Presidence o the Europe Union.

Meinisters taen tent at colloques is a-dae, athin the North-South Wirkin Group anent Watter Qualitie, for the coordinat tymtable for buskin o the seicont-cycle river basin management ploys unner the EU Watter Fraemwark Directive.

Meinisters gien a walcum tae the ongan coordinat anent the Blue Flag an Green Coast Schemes, pairticular the role haen frae the baith stewartries wi staundarts an the outbiggin o the rinnin o the Green Coast scheme, an gien a walcum tae the recent success o the respective awaurds ceremonies for Airlan an Norlin Airlan sat foer frae An Taisce an Tidy NI anaa.

The Council taen in a presentin in Mairch frae the Geological Survey o Norlin Airlan an the Geological Survey o Airlan anent the £4 millye (approximat €4.4 millye) TELLUS BORDER project. The project is a-daeen unner the EU INTERREG IVA Program an will gie data ayont vailye for tae uphauuld ongan environs management in the baith stewartries.

Environs Uphauld

Offeicials his leukit intae an gien thocht tae farder inlets for lyk fordel in jint wirkin for the faceilitatin o effective an effeicient policie approaches in the context o EU Directives anent Air Qualitie, Industrie Emeisions an Noise.

Meinisters greed at offeicials sud commeision farder owerleuks for tae pruiw the maiter o airbuirn polleutin frae smokey coal combustion in housen, an for tae gie a updaet tae Meinisters at the neist NSMC for a-hauldan in 2013. The Council gien a walcum tae farder cummin thegaiter frae offeicials for tae taak ower the abeilitie for approaches o lyk fordel, an gien thocht tae the 3d round noise cairts sat for 2017.

Environs Reportin an Research

The ongan jint wirkin atween the baith Agentries anent the kennin o cumman research needs an strategic plannin o research fundin programs wis gien a walcum frae Meinisters. Forby, the Council taen tent at the successfu international seimposium anent househauld affpit watter treatin seistems sat foer frae the Environs Uphauld Agentrie (EPA) an the Trinitie College, Dublin, at haen the inpit o presentins frae a nummer researchars at the heid o thair airt, an comprehendit regulators frae baith EPA an the Norlin Airlan Environs Agentrie (NIEA).

Meinisters wis gien reed at efter preliminar research intae the environs impacts o hydraulic fracturin (frakkin) in Mey 2012, a mair comprehensive research study is aa set afoer the end o 2012. A first forgaiter o the research steerin group wis helt on 5 Julie 2012.

The Council gien a walcum tae the last Norlin Airlan Environs Stateistics Report sat furth in Januar an the outgie o the EPAs staet o environs report “Airlans Environs 2012” in Juin 2012. Meinisters leukit foer tae inpit o the jint environs indicators in the neist outgie o the “Airlan North an South: A Stateistical Profiel” brocht thegaiter an sat furth frae the Central Stateistics Office an the Norlin Airlan Stateistics an Research Agentrie

It wis sat furth at a successfu FP7-Environs warkshap sat foer jint frae InterTradelreland, the NIEA, an EPA, at haen at it ower 60 researchars an gien a updaet an guidans anent the Julie caa for research propoens.

Heal



Left tae richt: Edwin Poots MLA, Meinister o Heal, Social Services an Public Sauftie, Bernie McCrory, CAWT, Michelle O'Neill MLA, Meinister o Agricultur an Laundart Oncum, James Reilly TD, Meinister for Heal, Frances Fitzgerald TD Meinister for Bairns an Youth Daeins, Mairead McAlinden an Tom Daly baith o CAWT at the NSMC Heal an Meat Sauftie Forgairther, 18 Julie 2012.

Throu 2012 the war three NSMC Heal forgairthers on 2 Februar, 18 Julie an 21 November. James Reilly TD, Meinister for Heal, Frances Fitzgerald TD, Meinister for Bairns an Youth Daeins, Edwin Poots MLA, Meinister for Heal, Social Services an Public Sauftie, an Michelle O'Neill MLA, Meinister o Agricultur an Laundart Oncum cam tae aa three forgairthers.

Heal Forder

A successfu North-South confearance anent the alcohol misuiss wis helt in Armagh in Januar 2012. Ower 130 delegats cam tae the confearance, at haen in it presentins wi geyn guid wittins frae haemlie an international taakars.

Meinisters wis gien a briefin anent the oncum o strategies in the baith stewardries on the alcohol misuiss. Thir comprehendit ongan collaboration anent the minimum unit price for the alcohol an propoens for a North/South Alcohol Forum. The first scowthin forgairther for this forum cam aff in October. Heid gaemies in alcohol policie frae the baith stewardries forgairthert than, for tae skaer wittins an practice, an dealan wi the alcohol misuiss.

A new ten-year tobacco overans strategie for Norlin Airlan wis sat foer in Februar 2012. Updaets anent progress wis gien Meinisters at NSMC Heal forgaitthers, comprehendan the upset o a monie-agentrie group for tae tak the strategie foerairt.

Meinisters taen tent at regulations for tae bring in text an phota reed anent tobacco products wis brocht in in Airlan in December 2011, an at laas defendan smoekin in cars whaur bairns bes thaur a-bringan on in Airlan anaa.

The baith Heal Meinisters upheld the furthset o the laa propoent for the Tobacco Directive frae the European Commeision at the neist inlet.

Progress maed frae the Byordinar Daeins Group anent Obesitie in Airlan wis taakit ower frae Meinisters. Thay taen tent at the Caloriewise scheme, at bes ettilt at baddan consumears mak mair chyces wi mair wittins, an eatan out or an muivean about, wis a-pruiwan frae aicht haemlie businesses in Norlin Airlan. The findins frae the public speirins process in Airlan anent calorie postin in restaurants. as pynts tae a heich leevel o uphauuld amang the oweraa public an athin the meat industrie itsself for calorie menu labelin, wis taen tent o.

Cancer an Heal Research Jint Wirkin

The Council wis gien a briefin anent progress wi oncum for the upset o a radiotherapie unit at Altnagelvin, an at biggin will stairt up in 2013, wi the unit ay wirkan in 2016.

Meinisters gien a walcum tae the quak avaunce frae the Aa Airlan Institut o Hospice an Palliative Caur in its wark on lear, research an the outgie o caur.

Thay gien a walcum tae the ongan success in monie-national research throu the US-Airlan R&D Pairtnerie anaa, comprehendan:

- the oncum o lyk screeds an wirkan procedurs, for tae deal wi fundin propoens bringan in heal researchars frae the baith stewartries an the US, as wis implementit an sat foer in August 2012; an
- the furthset o mukkil findins, as brocht in a mukkil international interest, anent the kennin o the genes as could be cause o a wheen patients wi diabetes gan on tae the oncum o serious kidney disease.

Meinisters taakit ower progress anent implement o the revised Memorandum o Unnerstaundin for the Airlan - Norlin Airlan - National Cancer Institut Cancer Consortium, an taen tent at jint research projects, taen on throu the MOU afoer, his pyntit tae a impruive in strategies for cancer fen or treatin. The three stewartries greed tae pit the focus tae fiev wark airts:

- capaceitie biggin for the clinical research;
- public heal & weelbein/fen/heal forder (bringan in population-heal research);
- nursein;
- palliative an end-o-lief caur; an
- survivorship.

Bairn uphault

The Council gien a walcum tae the propoen o a futur program o wark for the Bairn uphault Steerin Group at is for a-takkan foerairt throu fiev pairticular wark airts wi thair focus tae:

- knowledge niffer;
- qualitie an effectiveness;
- deiths o bairns in caur;
- cultur correspondence in saufguardin; an
- specialist services.

A Aa-Islan Bairn uphault confeerance will be helt in the first haaf o 2013. Confeerance delegats will skaer practice knowlege, research an learnin amang policie makkars, practitionars an managears anent the saufguardin an bairn uphault practices.

Suicide Fen

Meinisters gien a walcum tae the furthset o the new daen Fen Lief Strategie in Norlin Airlan, an taen tent o progress o the owerleuk o the Rax Out Suicide Fen strategie in Airlan.

The Council gien a walcum tae the stairt o Menfowks Heal Forum pilot projects, ane wi its focus tae the Colin airt in Belfast at wis hut afoer frae heich leevels o yung male suicide, an the seicont at taks a heft frae social media for tae rax out tae yung menfowk in Airlan.

A Registrie o Sel-Skaith nou kythes in aa spittal truists in Norlin Airlan, at bes meanan at the ar fou happin athort the islan Airlan. Meinisters gien endorse tae new daen aa-islan media guideans at leuks tae forder guid reportin o suicide an gien a walcum tae the *Please Talk* campaign at links students as bes begekkit wi college uphault, an at bes wirkan in campuses in the baith stewartries.

The ongan jint wirkin an progress on the reinge daeins athin the Aa-Islan Daeins Ploy anent Suicide Fen wis taen tent o frae Meinisters. Pairticular, the skaer o lear an trainin programs an the furthset o the WorkOut online application (www.workoutapp.ie) ettilt at makkan a impruive tae the mental fitness o yung menfowk.

EU Maiters

The Heal Presidence Program for a-takkan on throu Airlans Presidence o the Council o the Europe Union in the first haaf o 2013 wis taen tent o. Offeicials frae the Depairtment o Heal wis gien the darg o leukan airts o lyk interest wi offeicials frae the Depairtment o Heal, Social Services an Public Sauftie afoer the eHeal heich leevel confeerance at Airlan will be host tae in Mey 2013.

The howp wis put foer at the will be ongan North/South cleeks throu the Presidence an at, whaur necessar, the Meinister o Heal, Social Services an Public Sauffie an his offeicials will cam tae heid events.

CAWT

The Council taen in a presentin on the wark o Jint Wirkin an Wirkin Thegaiter (CAWT), an Meinisters gien guid wishes tae CAWT for its wark ower the past 20 year for the impruive o the heal an weelbein o fowk in the Mairches.

Meinisters gien walcum tae the progress maed in the implement o the CAWT-managed €30m EU INTERREG IVA project “Puttan Patients, Clients an Faimlies First”. Throu this project the war ower 20,000 patient an client beneficiars wi the outcom o a impruive tae the patient walfaur an the deliverie o hainins tae the twa Heal Depairtments.

Tourism



Left tae right: Joe Byrne, Tourism Ireland, Leo Varadkar TD, Meinister for Transport, Tourism an Sport, Michael an Collette Quinlan, BITA at a *Gathering Ireland 2013* event.

The NSMC forgaihtert in Tourism format in Armagh on 25 Januar an 28 November 2012. Arlene Foster MLA, Meinister o Enterprise, Traed an Investment, an Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, Airts an Leisur cam tae baith forgaihters. Leo Varadkar TD, Meinister for Transport, Tourism an Sport cam tae the Januar forgaihter an Michael Ring TD, Meinister o Staet at the Depairtment o Transport, Tourism an Sport, cam tae the November forgaihter.

Tourism Ireland Ltd haes responsibeilitie for the mercatin in fremmit launds o the islan Airlan lyk a tourist destination. Hit haes a Buird o 12 directors taen on frae the NSMC. The Preses an Preses Depute is Mr Brian Ambrose an Mr Jim Flannery. Directors thenou kythes at Annex Three. The Heid Executive o Tourism Ireland is Mr Niall Gibbons. Farder details kythes at www.tourismireland.com.

The performans owerleuk for 2011 shawed a gawth in veisitars frae fremmit launds for the first tym syne 2007. An takkan tent o the dounfaa in veisitars tae the islan Airlan frae Great Britain in the recent years, Meinisters gien a walcum tae the wark o the Tourism Recuiverie Taskforce, haeen in it Tourism Ireland, the Norlin Airlan Tourist Buird, Fáilte Airlan an industrie representars, anent the oncum o the GB Pad tae Grawth Strategie for tae leuk at this maiter. Meinisters taen tent o the recommends o this strategie, at is for implement frae Tourism Ireland in 2013 an ayont.

The Preses an the CEO gien a updaet tae Meinisters anent the wark o the Tourism Ireland Buird comprehendan implement o the 2011 an 2012 Business Ploys an oncum o the 2013 Business Ploy. A mukkil oncums comprehendit:

- the row-out o a new global destination advertisein campaign ‘Spring intae Airlan’, the braid ni2012 forder campaign at bes ongan athort the world winnan tae 100 millye fowk an the “greenin” o mukkil laundmairks an iconic steids around the Baa on St Patricks Day comprehendan the Leanan Touer o Pisa, Niagara Faas, the London Ee, Table Mount in South Africa an the Princes Palace o Monaco;
- the Titanic Belfast Festival 2012, the openin o the new veisitar biggin at the Giants Causey, the Airis Open Gowf Kempin at the Royal Portrush Gowf Club an the 50t Belfast Festival at the Queens Vairsitie;
- mukkil tourism events an initiatives aa sat for 2013 comprehendan “The Gathering Airlan 2013”, Airlans kenspekkilmaist tourism initiative o aa tym, at will hae its focus tae a reinge flagship festivals athort the year, along wi byordinar interest spin-aff events, an a commontie-heidit program; the stairtan UK Ceitie o Cultur in 2013, at gies the parfit folla-up tae the ni2012 program an the Warld Polis an Fier Gaems 2013, at will be the maist aefauld sportin event aye wi Belfast bean its host. The role o Tourism Ireland in the mercatin in fremmit launds o thir twa initiatives wis gien a owerleuk tae the Council;
- the row-out o a new reinge wabsteids sat out for tae big on the grawan import o the internet in traivel an holiday plannin, an for tae harness the gey mukkil growth in the social media; an
- Meinisters Foster an Ní Chuilín an necessar offeicials wis gien a inviet for tae cum tae EU Presidence events relaet tae Tourism an Sport.



Left tae richt: Arlene Foster MLA, Meinister for Enterprise, Traed an Investment, the Rt Hon Peter Robinson MLA, First Meinister an Martin McGuinness MLA, First Meinister depute at *Norlin Airlan 2012 our tym our place*.

Transport



Left tae richt: Alex Attwood MLA, Meinister o the Environs, Leo Varadkar TD, Meinister for Transport, Tourism an Sport an Danny Kennedy MLA, Meinister for Regional Oncum at the NSMC Transport Forgaither 20 Apryle 2012.

The war twa NSMC Transport forgaithers on 20 Apryle 2012 an on 5 October 2012. Meinister Varadkar TD, Meinister for Transport, Tourism an Sport, Meinister Kennedy MLA, Meinister for Regional Oncum an Meinister Attwood MLA, Meinister o the Environs cam tae the baith forgaithers.

Raas

In Februar 2012 the NA Executive Meinisters sat furth a investment pack o mukkil raas projects comprehendan twa sections o the A5 an A8 project. The Airis Govrenment lat it be kent at hit gaes on wi its commetment tae the endin o the co-fundit A5 project at bes o strategic import tae the North West Airt an the haill islan, but besna in a poseition for tae mak fundin commetments for the tym efter 2016 in afoer its giein thocht tae the neist Capital Owerleuk Fraemwark (lyk in 2015).

The Meinisters taen tent at the necessar Orders bes efter a-makkan for tae faceilitat the biggin on twa streeks o the A5. Meinisters taen tent at a updaet o the project mielstaen an payment schedule, for the tym tae the end o 2016, will be sat out for greeans at a futur NSMC Transport forgaither anaa. Thay taen tent at the biggin wark bes efter a-stairtan on the A8 project an will lyk be aa daen gin ear 2015 anaa.

Raa Sauftie

The Council gien a walcum tae the ongan skaerin o knowledge an ken atween offeicials frae the baith stewartries anent the oncum an deliverie o raa sauftie strategies for tae mak siccar the best approach tae the dounbring o the nummer an sairitie o injuers braid the islan. This comprehendit progress tae the dounbring o drink dryv leimits in ilka stewartrie. The Council skaert progress anent the daein o a scrow o laas for tae impruive Norlin Airlans dryvar trainin, pruiwin an efter-test regime.

Meinisters gien a walcum the ongan proactive jint wirkin for tae mak a tairget a braid reinge no legal daeins athin the guids haulage an passengear transport industries, comprehendan:

- a mair tairgetit approach tae the enforcein;
- ongan liaison anent athort Mairch enforce wirkins in 2012 in the baith stewartries;
- jint wirkin anent vehicle staundarts comprehendan the lyk ken o vehicle kin appruive, at will allow simplification o the register process; an
- niffer o data on an folla-up o no raawirthie fremmit vehicles in aither stewartrie.

The Council gien a walcum the graund jint wirkin anent the enforcein o EU tachograph an dryvars hours ruils an the propoent trainin niffer for enforcein officears, at will cum aff in 2013.

Lyk ken o Penaltie Pynts

The terms o referrin an membership o the steeran an wirkan groups bes efter a-greean for tae tak foer wark anent lyk ken o the penaltie pynts. Meinisters greed the tymtable o heid mielstaens for haean the necessar primarie an secundar laas aa daen gin 31 December 2014 an greed at a updaet is for a-reportan tae the neist NSMC transport forgaiter.

Belfast Dublin Rail Link

The Council taakit ower progress frae NIR an Airis Rail anent the impruive o the performans o the Enterprise service comprehendan:

- impruivements tae the reliabeilitie an punctualitie;
- the abeilitie for the outgie o a hourlie tymtable; an
- ploys for neir-term impruives for bean aa daen in 2012, comprehendan wark for the impruive o locomotive reliabeilitie an the dounbring o fuel consumption an the inpit o Wi-Fi tae the Enterprise trains.

Meinisters taen tent at, sae bean the siller cum open, NIR haes ploys in the mid term for tae impruive the trak qualitie anaa. The companie is bringan on a business case for a monie-modal transport hub in Belfasts Great Victoria Street, at wad impruive ceitie centre access for Enterprise passengears an farder-term invest abeilities could be gien thocht tae athin the context o foercumman EU deceisions anent the neist TEN-T program.

Sustainable Traivel an Transport

Meinisters gien a walcum tae the ongan jint wirkin atween the National Sustainable Traivel Office an the Traivelwise Initiative, an forderan the waakin, the cyclein, the public transport an the car skaerin athort the islan.

Frecht Forum

Meinisters taakit ower the end o the wark o the Aa-Islan Frecht Forum an gien a walcum tae the relationships an wirkin thegaiter, at wis efter a-bringan on throu the Frecht Forum. Thay leukit foerairt tae siclyk gan on.

HGV Chairgein an Cabotage

Meinisters gien thocht tae the Depairtment for Transports deceision for tae bring in a laa at wad cum tae HGV raa uisear chairgein in the UK. The Council taen tent at the Europe Commeision wis efter a-speiran for claritie anent maiters relaet tae bus cabotage. Meinisters taakit ower lyk affcums o the EU Raawirthiness Pack.

Aquacultur an Marine



Michelle O'Neill MLA, Minister o Agriculture an Landairt Oncum, Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister for Social Oncum, Pat Rabbitte TD, Minister for Communications, Energie an Naitural Graith an Fergus O'Dowd TD, Minister o Staet, Depairtment o Communications, Energie an Naitural Graith on buird the 'Derry~Londonderry Clipper' efter the NSMC Lochs Agentrie forgaither on 4 Julie.

The NSMC forgaithers in Aquacultur an Marine sectoral format for tae tak decessions anent policies an daeins for implement frae the Foyle, Cairlinford an Airis Lichts Commeision (FCILC). The FCILC haes a Buird o 12 members taen on frae the NSMC. The Buird gets on wi the functions o the Curn on the Foyle an Cairlinford airts throu the Lochs Agentrie. The Preses an Preses Depute is Mr Winston Patterson an Mr Alan McCulla. The Buird members thenou kythes in Annex Three. The Heid Executive (The Whiel) o the Lochs Agentrie is Mr John Pollock, at wis taen on in December. Farder details kythes at www.loughs-agency.org.

Throu 2012 the war NSMC Aquacultur an Marine forgaithers on 1 Mairch, 4 Julie an 12 December. Michelle O'Neill MLA, Minister o Agriculture an Landairt Oncum, an Nelson McCausland MLA, Minister for Social Oncum, cam tae aa three forgaithers. Pat Rabbitte TD, Minister for Communications, Energie an Naitural Graith cam tae the forgaithers in Julie an December an Fergus O'Dowd TD, Minister o Staet, Depairtment o Communications, Energie an Naitural Graith cam tae the forgaithers in Mairch an Julie.

Progress Report

The Preses an the Heid Executive gien Meinisters Progress Reports anent the wark o the Lochs Agentrie. Heid oncums taakit ower comprehendit:

- attaks agin the Lochs Agentries enforcein wirkars an volunteer River Watchars, comprehendan twa serious assaults;
- the oncum o a formal wirkin ploy wi the PSNI an An Garda Síochána for tae deal wi thir assaults;
- a dounbring o veiolent daeins agin Fisheries Officears wis gien a walcum frae Meinisters at the December forgaither an recent custodie sentences for sic offences wis taen tent o;
- the success o the Agentries enforcein daeins unner the Oyster Fishin Regulats an the impruive in the oyster population o the Loch Foyle an the dounbring in maiters o Bonamia;
- the declaer caan aff the commercial fishin in the Loch Foyle an the tydal Foyle for tae help impruive the owerleivin o Atlantic Saamon, at is the cause o a gey mukkil consarn wi unner fiev per cent o the juveniels leaan the seistems cumman bak bean adults;
- the signin o a Memorandum o Unnerstaundin atween the Meat Sauttie Authoritie o Airlan an the Agentrie an the guid impact this is for haean on shellfish hygiene;
- progress anent Marine Tourism an Anglein Oncum pairticular the endin o wark for the pontoon at Meadowbank, an the Agentries mukkil inpit tae the gey successfu Clipper Round the World event;
- buskin for the sea an trout anglein events o the 2013 World Fier an Polis Gaems;
- in 2013 the Agentrie will be wirkan wi the Ceitie o Cultur biggins ettill at bringan the River Foyle intae the festeivities;
- The Council taen tent at the Lochs Agentrie, bean at the heid wi pairtners frae the Vairsitie o Glesga an the Queens Vairsitie Belfast, buir the gree for makkan siccar fundin throu INTERREG IVA for the project "Integrat Aquatic Graith Management Project atween Airlan, N. Airlan an Scotlan (IBIS). The oweraa ettil o this project is the oncum o a lyk approach tae the outgie o heich prioritie trainin, research an knowledge skaerin, an uphauldan the freshwater an marine graith management an the policie an the biodiversitie thir ecoseistems haulds up. The oweraa vailyie o the program is aroun £8 millye, at rins frae August 2011 tae Juin 2015.

NASCO 2013

At the December forgaither Meinister Rabbitte sat furth, at Airlan wis host tae the North Atlantic Saamon Conserve Organisation (NASCO) yearlie forgaither in Juin 2013 an gien a inviet tae Meinisterial colleagues for tae tak pairt in thon forgaither.

Laa-Makkin

The Regulats ablo nott for the uphauld o the fisheries in Foyle an Cairlinford wis gien appruive:

- The Foyle Airt (Greenbraes Fisherie Anglein Permits) Regulats 2012;
- the Foyle Airt an Cairlinford Airt (Anglein) (Amend) Regulats 2012; an
- the folla-on Foyle Airt (Owerans o the Fishin) (Amend) Regulats 2012.

The Council gien appruive for a farder year, tae Julie 2013, a procedur for tae gie uphauld tae the Lochs Agentrie, an dealan, throu regulats, wi emergencies.

Lochs Agentrie Pension Arrynges

The Lochs Agentrie is nou aa daen wi, an speiran efter the Sponsor Depairtments, a economic appraisein o the options for tae mak regular its pey an pension arrynges. This appraisein gien a recommend, at the Agentrie tak the necessar steps for tae jyn the North/South Pension Scheme. Sponsor an Finance Depairtments is giean thocht tae the laa an finance outcums o the Agentrie jynan the Scheme, an recommends will be brocht tae a futur NSMC Aquacultur an Marine forgaither for appruive.

Aquacultur Management Greeans

Meinisters gien a walcum tae the progress tae thenou on the oncum o a Aquacultur Management Greeans an, pairticular, the ettil o the Lochs Agentrie an the Depairtment o Agricultur, Meat an Marine for tae hae a oweraa Management Greeans put in throu 2013 for tae mak aibil the oncum o aquacultur licensein in the Loch Foyle.

Buird Membership

Meinisters gien appruive tae the ontak o Laurence Arbuckle tae the Buird o the Foyle, Cairlinford an Airis Lichts Commeision in the steid o Tarlach O Crosain.

Meat Sauffie



Campaign ettilt at haeen consumears pruiw the daets an bring doun meat affpit

The NSMC forgaithers anent Meat Sauffie maiters for tae tak deceisions anent policies an daeins for implement frae the Meat Sauffie Forder Buird (FSPB). FSPB wirks unner the braund identifeer 'safefood'. Hit haes a Buird o Reed o 12 members, taen on frae the NSMC, foerhaund chairged wi the forder o meat sauffie an hauldan up the scientific jint wirkin atween institutions wirkin in thon airt.

The Preses an Preses Depute o the Buird is Ms Lynn Ní Bhaoighealláin an Ms Darina Allen. The Buird members thenou kythes in Annex Three. The Heid Executive o *safefood* is Mr Martin Higgins. Farder details kythes at www.safefood.eu.

Throu 2012 the war NSMC Meat Sauffie forgaithers on 2 Februar, 18 Julie an 21 November. James Reilly TD, Meinister for Heal, Frances Fitzgerald TD, Meinister for Bairns an Youth Daeins, Edwin Poots MLA, Meinister for Heal, Social Services an Public Sauffie, an Michelle O'Neill MLA, Meinister o Agricultur an Laundart Oncum cam tae aa three forgaithers.

At thir forgaitthers Meinisters taen in progress reports frae the Preses an Heid Executive anent the daeins o *safe*food.

Thir reports comprehendit updaets anent scientific an forder daeins taen on frae the Curn, comprehendan:

- the success o the “Stap the Spreid” obesitie an owerwecht campaign at wun the gowd awaurd in the healcaur sector at the 2012 An Post Integrat Direct Mercatin Awaurds;
- wark anent the oncum o a indicator for the meisurin o meat povretie; an
- wark in a jint campaign wi the Depairtment o Environs an the Environs Uphauld Agentrie anent the impruive o customars unnerstaundin o “*best before*” an “*use by* daets”.

Meinisters taen in a presentin anent the wark o the Knowledge Networks. Thir networks helps wi the faceilitatin o mair knowledge skaerin frae thaim as bes in wi aa pairts o the meat chain for tae hauld up an bring foer the meat sauftie.

The furthset o the *safe*food report “Infectious Intestinal Diseases on the Islan Airlan 2000-2010” wis gien a walcum frae Meinisters, as gien ken tae *safe*foods ongan wark on sic diseases.

A report anent upcumman meat sauftie maiters buskit frae *safe*foods Scientific Reed Comatee wis gien a walcum frae Meinisters. This report haen in it a propoen anent a new model o cumman at upcumman meat sauftie maiters on aa-islal founds.

Martin Higgins wis taen on ance mair for *safe*food CEO tae Mey 2015. Dr Mary Upton an Mr Robert Huey wis taen on for Preses an Preses Depute o the Scientific Reed Comatee an fiev new members wis taen on tae the comatee.

Inlan Watterweys



Left tae richt: OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell MLA, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, Airts an Leisur, Jimmy Deenihan TD, Meinister for Airts, Heirship an the Gaeltacht an Meinister Dinny McGinley TD, Meinister o Staet wi byordinar responsibeilitie for Gaeltacht Daeins at the NSMC Watterweys Airlan Forgaither 9 Julie 2012.

Watterweys Airlan haes responsibeilitie for the management, uphaul, oncum an restoer o the inlan navigable watterwey seistems athort the islan, oweraa for recreational ettils. Hit haes responsibeilitie thenou for thir watterweys: Barra Navigation, Erne Seistem, Graund Canal, Nether Bann Navigation, the Royal Canal, Shannon-Erne Watterwey an Shannon Navigation cumman tae aroun 1,000km o navigable watterweys. Hit haes responsibeilitie forby for the restoer o the streek o the Ulster Canal atween Clones an the Upper Loch Erne an, efter restoration, for its management, uphaul an oncum. The Heid Executive o Watterweys Airlan is Mr John Martin. Farder details kythes at www.waterwaysireland.org

The NSMC forgaithert in Inlan Watterweys sectoral format in Inniskillin on the 14 Februar an in Armagh on the 9 Julie an 12 December. Dinny McGinley TD, Meinister o Staet wi byordinar responsibeilitie for Gaeltacht Daeins, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, Airts an Leisur an OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell MLA cam tae the forgaither in Inniskillin. Jimmy Deenihan TD, Meinister for Airts, Heirship an the Gaeltacht, Dinny McGinley TD, Meinister o Staet wi byordinar responsibeilitie for Gaeltacht Daeins, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, Airts an Leisur an OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell MLA cam tae the baith forgaithers.

Heid achievements for Watterweys Airlan in 2012 comprehendit:

- the ongan sponsorship program frae Watterweys Airlan for tae pit foer the awaur o the watterweys athort aa navigations wi 94 events gien sponsor tae thenou wi a estimat attendin o neir 1.1m fowk an a estimat vailie tae the economie o the baith stewartries o ower €85 millye;
- uphould o the watterweys wi 99% o watterweys bidedan open frae Apryle tae October;
- at the 31 October 2012 a total o 591 metre o by-muirins his been gien - 50m at the Spencer Dock on the Royal Canal, Dublin an 541 m at the Loch Key Forest Pairk, on the Shannon Navigation;
- 4 new outgies, “A Taste o the Watterweys”, “Guide tae the Barra”, “Guid Boatin Guide” & “Whit’s On 2012”;
- the ongan inpit an gaein wi the INTERREG IVC Watterweys Foerairt Project; an
- the Watterweys Airlan Lear Program, at haen in it the oncum o lear packs for the schuils, wis sat furth in November frae Meinister Deenihan an Meinister Quinn at the Watterweys Airlan Veisitar Centre in Dublin an at the forgaitheir in Armagh on 12 December 2012 frae Meinister Ní Chuilín an Meinister Deenihan.

At the December forgaitheir a presentin anent the ill effects o Invasive Species on the watterweys wis maed frae Dr Paula Treacy, Heid Environs Officer, Watterweys Airlan. The presentin put foer the kin invasive species, as can be aquatic plaunts, riparian plaunts fish an invertebrates, an the effect o ilka kin species on the watterwey network. Meisurs in takkilin problems associat wi invasive species wis taakit ower anaa.

The Council taen in a progress report anent the restoer wark for the Clones tae the Upper Loch Erne pairt o the Ulster Canal. Meinisters taen tent at the stait forgaitheir o the Inter-Agentrie Group on the Ulster Canal wis helt on the 20 September. The group will pruiw fundin options for the project, an the project is ongan for tae gae on throu the plannin process in baith stewartries. Watterweys Airlan his gien a repoen tae aa speirins for clarification an tae aa objections tae thenou, an a decesion is a-waitan on frae the Monaghan Countie Council an the Department o the Environs Plannin Service.

The Council gaed wi a nummer propertie dispoens athort 2012

The CEO o Watterweys Airlan John Martin is for retier on the 31 Mairch 2013. At the December forgaitheir, Meinisters gien him thanks for his inpit tae the Curn an taen tent o the process for ontak o a new CEO.

St Andras Greeans Owerleuk – Watterweys Airlan Recommends

At the forgaitheer on 14 Februar 2012 Meinisters maed referrins tae fouwer recommends for the endorsein o the Pleenarie Forgaitheer o Juin 2012. Thir recommends kythes ablo:

- sponsor depairtments giean thocht tae options aroun the upset o a Buird comprehendan nae mair nor twal members an tae pit foer propoens for a-thinkan on at a futur NSMC Inlan Watterweys forgaitheer;
- sponsor depairtments tae implement as necessar, throu chynges tae the laas or ither administrative weys, a *de minimis* proveision for the dealin wi Watterweys Airlan dispoen o a watterwey or a pairt o a watterwey;
- sponsor Depairtments tae leuk ower the proveisions thaer thenou anent Watterweys Airlans commercial daeins for tae mak siccar at thir ansuers tae whit bes nott, an tae mak a report tae a futur NSMC Inlan Watterweys forgaitheer; an
- takkan tent o the economic an fiscal circumstaunces thenou, nae farder daeins bes taen on at this tym for tae mak braider the remit o Watterweys Airlan.

Langage



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

The ar 15 ithar members on the Buird o Foras na Gaeilge an 7 ithar members on the Ulster-Scots Agentrie. The Buird members thenou kythes in Annex Three. Mr Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh is the Heid Executive o Foras na Gaeilge. Mr Ian Crozier is the Heid Executive o the Ulster-Scots Agentrie. Farder details kythes at www.forasnagaeilge.ie an www.ulsterscotsagency.com.

The war three NSMC Langage forgaithers in 2012 on 14 Februar, 9 Julie an 12 December. The forgaithers wis cam tae frae Jimmy Deenihan TD, Meinister for Airts, Heirship an the Gaeltacht, Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister for Cultur, Airts an Leisur, Dinny McGinley TD, Meinister o Staet wi byordinar responsibeilitie for Gaeltacht Daeins an OFMDFM Junior Meinister Jonathan Bell MLA. Meinisters taen in progress reports frae the Preses an CEOs o the baith agentries. Heid oncums taakit ower comprehendit:

- ongan collaboration anent govrenans an forder maiters, comprehendan reveision o the Coequalitie Scheme;

- pairttakkin in jint showcase events an in the Yung Ambassadors Program; an
- colloques anent a schedule for jint Buird forgaithers for tae focus on an mak progress wi jint projects.

Foras na Gaeilge brocht on a onlien trainin network for translaetars an editors (details at www.aistear.ie) an gien accreditit translaetars an editors a new outgie o the translaet myndin graith, happan public service terminologie an oweraa terminologie. Thay gaed on wi the biggin o links atween Airlan an Scotlan throu the Colmcille project an Tonnta, as bes buskan a inter-schuil link throu podcasts atween Belfast, Dinnygal an North Lanarkshire.

Thay ar efter makkan open fundin the outgie o byordinar courses for the public service:

- wi ower 1,200 pairttakkars cumman tae nicht classes;
- ower 2,200 pairttakkan in the onlien learnin; an
- fordert the Airis leid amang yung fowk throu fundin o neir €500,000 for 66 simmer camps an 77 youth events.

Forby, Foras na Gaeilge is wirkin for tae forder the uiss o Airis in a business context in the smaa an mid-enterprise sector wi match-fundin uphauld gien tae 125 businesses.

Meinisters taakit ower recent oncum anent the mukkil new English/Airis dictionar an gien appruive, athin the budget thenou, tae a revised tymtable whaur the onlien electronic version will be sat furth gin the end 2012 an the prentit version will be sat furth in 2015.

The Council wis gien a briefin anent propoens a-bringan on frae the Ulster-Scots Agentrie for tae forder an uphauld Ulster-Scots Hairtlan airts. The ettil is the preserve, fen an presentin o Ulster-Scots heirship throu geographical designations.

Forby, Meinisters taakit ower progress on the oncum o a new fundin model for Foras na Gaeilges coer fundin tae the Airis langage voluntar sector, at will be the focus o the first Langage Sector Forgaither in 2013.

At the December forgaither, Meinisters taen tent at the 2008 an 2009 consolidat Langage Curn report an accounts wis sat in the Assemblie an in the Housen o the Oireachtas on 11 Julie 2012 an on 7 December 2012. Thay gien a direction tae Foras na Gaeilge an the Ulster-Scots Agentrie tae comprehend, lyk a foerhaund ettil in thair 2013 business ploys, the outgie o the Langage Curn accounts for 2010, 2011 an 2012.



The Ulster-Scots Agentrie brocht tae a end anither geyn successfu rin o the 'Pat an Plain' drama series at 11 schuils an sat the Ulster-Scots Foundation Certificat for Lear in Heilan Pipein furth at Stormont in Mey, alang wi the Royal Scots Piep Baund Associe. Alang wi the Ulster-Scots Commontie Network, the Ulster-Scots Agentrie put out Plauntation Warkshaps tae ower 400 bairns at 17 schuils in Ulster, 14 o thaim helt in the mairches counties o Cavan, Monaghan an Dinnygal. The Agentrie gaed foer wi its Ulster-Scots flagship program for primarie schuils, comprehendan greeans wi schuils anent the pairttakkin in an organisation o a stairtan dominies confeerance, an sat up the Ulster-Scots Lamage Forum wi representin frae lamage groups, the Meinisterial Reed Group on Ulster-Scots (MAGUS), the Vairsitie o Ulster an BBC Norlin Airlan.

Byordinar EU Programs



Delegates at the PEACE III Conference, at cam aff in the Belfast Ceitíe Haa on Tuesday 13 November 2012

The meision o the Byordinar Europe Union Programs Curn (SEUPB) is the effective managein an implement o fundin programs awnan tae the twa Govrenments an the Europe Union ettilt at the outgie o social an economic impruives tae the fowk in Norlin Airlan an Airlan throu athort-Mairch, transnational an atween-airt wirkin thegaiter. The Heid Executive o the SEUPB is Mr Pat Colgan. Farder details kythes at www.seupb.eu

The NSMC SEUPB forgaiter cam aff on 4 Mey 2012 in Armagh. The forgaiter wis cam tae frae Brendan Howlin TD, Meinister for Public Expenditur an Reform, Sammy Wilson MP MLA, Meinister for Finance an Personnel, an OFMDFM Junior Meinister Martina Anderson MLA. Meinister Howlin wis Preses for the forgaiter.

Heid oncums for the SEUPB in 2012 comprehendit:

- progress on the implement o the PEACE III Programs anent the pruiwin o applications an appruive o projects. At the PEACE III Monitor Comatee in October 2012, it wis taen tent at 194 projects wirth €356 millye wis efter appruive, cumman tae a fou commitment leevel o the allocat PEACE III fundin;
- expenditur on the PEACE III Program put foer at the PEACE III Monitor Comatee in October wis €140 millye;

- progress on the implement o the INTERREG IVA Program anent the pruiwin o applications an appruive o projects. At the INTERREG IVA Monitor Comatee in October 2012, it wis put foer at Commitments wis tae the wirth o €225.44 millye or 88% o the Program;
- expenditur tae the INTERREG IVA Program put foer at the INTERREG IVA Monitor Comatee in October 2012 wis €78.28 millye;
- gin September 2013 Local authoritie-foundit groups haen 35 INTERREG IVA projects gien appruive, tae the wirth o €60.69 millye;
- the wark o the SEUPB for tae faceilitat North-South pairttakkin in the INTERREG IV transnational an interregional programs. Gin September 2012, SEUPB maed siccar 64 project pairtners athort the necessar programs;
- communicatin frae the SEUPB o the guid impacts o the EU Programs wi twa mukkil conferances for the PEACE III an INTERREG Programs. The INTERREG IVA conferance cam aff in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dundalk in September. The PEACE III conferance cam aff in November in the Belfast Ceitie Haa;
- the SEUPB upheld a nummer heich profile launches comprehendan the PEACE III fundit Castle Soundeson scoutin project an the Clones Erne East Sports project an the INTERREG IV A fundit Integrat Aquatic Graith Management; an
- the SEUPB stairtit in the Hairst 2012 public speirins anent new EU Programs.

St Andras Greeans Owerleuk – SEUPB Recommend

Meinisters at the Mey 2012 NSMC forgaitheer gien thocht tae a recommend anent the upset o a Buird for the Byordinar EU Programs Curn an greed tae refer the recommends ablo for the endorse tae the Juin 2012 NSMC Pleenarie:

- takkan tent o EU monitor arrynges thenou, the cost o a Buird, for tae admeinisher juiist 3% o the SEUPB budget, wad be sweir justifeed; an
- the twa sponsor Depairtments will pruiw the govrenans arrynges for the SEUPB, as bes thaer thenou.

Traed an Business Oncum



Left tae richt: Arlene Foster MLA, Meinister o Enterprise, Traed an Investment, EU Commeisionar for the Innovation Maire Geoghegan Quinn, Martin Cronin, Preses o InterTradelreland an Lucinda Creighton TD, Meinister o Staet wi byordinar responsibeilitie for European Daeins at the 'Collaborat tae Innovat' Conference Juin 2012.

The Traed an Business Oncum Curn, cryed InterTradelreland, wis sat up for a niffer o wittins an the linkin o wark anent traed, business oncum an relaet maiters, in airts whaur the baith stewartries pairticular gree hit wad be in thair lyk interest. InterTradelreland haes a Buird o 12 members taen on frae the NSMC. Buird members thenou kythes in Annex Three. The Heid Executive o InterTradelreland is Mr Thomas Hunter McGowan. Farder details kythes at www.intertradeireland.com.

NSMC Traed an Business Oncum forgaiters wis helt in Armagh on 1 Mairch 2012 an 28 November 2012. Richard Bruton TD, Meinister for Jobs, Enterprise an Innovatin, Arlene Foster MLA, Meinister for Enterprise, Traed an Investment, an John O'Dowd MLA, Meinister for Lear cam tae the 1 Mairch forgaiter an Richard Bruton, TD, Meinister for Jobs, Enterprise an Innovation, Arlene Foster, MLA, Meinister for Enterprise, Traed an Investment, an Carál Ní Chuilín MLA, Meinister o Cultur, Airts an Leisur cam tae the 28 November forgaiter.

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

- the generation in 2011 of £119.8M/€146.1M of Business Vailie from companies takkan part in Trade and Innovation Programs;
- 2,576 companies on InterTradeIreland Trade and Innovation Programs and leuit intae athort-mairch Business Wittings and Reed Services;
- guid progress wis maed in the first haaf of 2012 agin year-end 2012 tairgets, comprehendan 21 first-tym innovators agin a fou year tairget of 35, a jobs impact of 115 agin a fou year tairget of 150 and is aa sat for tae deliver effeiciencie hainins of 6%;
- the wark at InterTradeIreland bes efter takkan on for tae uphauld companies, comprehendan the pilotin of twa new programs “Challenge” and “Elevat”. Thir programs uphaulds SMEs and micro businesses for tae grow and cum on throu innovatin and exportin agin sweir mercat condeitions in the baith stewartries;
- recommends brocht foer in a InterTradeIreland report, *Aa Islan Public Procurein: A Competitiveness Study* and the upset of a North/ South Wirkin Group for tae tak foerairt daeins for tae big up veisibeilitie and accessibeilitie tae the £18 Billion/€ 21 Billion public procurein mercat, a heid dryvear of demand in the economie and the abeilitie of SMEs for tae win tenders on athort-mairch founds;
- ongan and futur initiatives brocht on frae InterTradeIreland for tae forder and stimulat mair jint wirkin for tae big up appleein tae EU fraemwark programs. In the tym frae November 2011 tae Julie 2012, the war 63 mair North/South inputs, wi 19 of thaim successfu, cumman tae fundin of €20.5M. This represents a upbig of 51.2% in fundin bys the tym frae the stait of the FP7 Program tae November 2011;
- the ongan success and oncum of the US-Airlan Research & Oncum Pairtnerie, comprehendan the outbiggin for tae bring in Telecommunications and Energie and Uphauld and the laetest collaborative propoen ‘WiPhyLoc8’ in the new eikit airt of telecommunications; and
- the findins of InterTradeIrelands athort-Mairch study anent the innovatin ecoseistem, at pits on tae the view at the uphauld of innovatin is a creitical channel for tae forder growth. For InterTradeIrelands programs, as uphaulds a open seistem of innovatin athort the islan, twa pairticular Challenge program pairttakkars wis put foer – the Clada Group and Fast Engineerin – whaur the baith companies haes sat furth a mukkil fordels frae the pairttakkin in the program.

CHAIPTER FOUWER: NSMC JINT SECRETARIAT RAX-OUT DAEINS

Forby the North-South Council o Meinisters Jint Secretariats heid function o uphauld tae the NSMC, fowk gets intae a wheen daeins ettilt at cumman thegaiter wi staekhauldars an the haemlie commontie. The Jint Secretariat is ettilt at pittan foer the Jint Secretariat Biggins in Armagh an the wark taen on frae the Jint Secretariat an the NSMC anaa. Throu the year, the Jint Secretariat maed arrynges for a nummer events for tae gie uphauld tae this role.



Representars o the 'Jint Comatee on the Implement o the Guid Fryday Greeans' on their veisit tae the NSMC JS Biggins in Armagh on 12 Januar 2012.

On Thursday 12 Januar 2012, members o the Jint Comatee for the Implement o the Guid Fryday Greeans peyed a veisit tae the Jint Secretariat Biggins in Armagh. The Jint Comatee wis sat up in the Oireachtas efter the Guid Fryday Greeans/Belfast Greeans. This Comatee haes a importan role in giean wittins tae the colloque anent heid airts o lyk interest, the lyk o North/South economic jint wirkin, pairticular in the airts o tourism, transport an communications, infrastructur an agricultur, reconcilein an wirkin agin sectarianism, athort-mairch jint wirkin in polisins, an Airlan/UK relations.

The Comatee thocht the reinge wark taen on frae the Jint Secretariat gey guid. Thay kent forby, at initiatives anent tourism, heal an cultur bes at the mids o the upbiggin o the social an economic oncum in the Mairches, an put on vailye tae the strategies sat out in the Guid Fryday Greeans/Belfast Greeans. Thay kent at

Armagh bes a Ceitie o a mukkil historical wecht, an at the location o the NSMC Biggins bes a testament tae the futur role the Ceitie can hae, an bringan on athort-mairch relations.



Delegats at the 'Induction for new Buird Members' in the NSMC Jint Secretariat Offices in Armagh in Januar 2012

On 18 Januar the NSMC JS wis host tae a successfu inductin event at the biggins in Armagh for the Buird members o the North-South Implement Curns an Tourism Ireland juist efter a-takkan on.

The session haen focus tae pittan foer the import o govrenans athin the North-South Implement Curns an Tourism Ireland. The program haen in it a owerview frae the Jint Secretars anent the wark o the NSMC an the North-South Curns, forby a oweraa leuk at the responsibeilities o Buird members. A panel o guest speakers comprehendan Dr David Dobbin CBE, (ance Preses o InterTradelreland an Managean Director o United Dairy Farmers Ltd), Padraic White, (ance Managean Director o the Industrial Oncum Authoritie o Airlan) an Bernie McCrory an Tom Daly (Cooperation an Wirkin Thegaiter) than buid thair thochts anent the challenges an inlets for North-South Wirkin Thegaiter.



Pairttakkars at the Youth Program in the Jint Secretariat biggins on 22 Mairch 2012

The Jint Secretariat kent the import o the biggin o links athin the haemlie commontie an in pairtnerie wi PSNI, the Armagh Ceitie an District Council an the Armagh Schuils Forum, sat up a Youth Program comprehendan fiftie students frae haemlie post-primarie schuils in the biggins in Armagh on 12 Mairch 2012.

The Program haen in it a presentin o the wark o the NSMC, an a interactive session whaur the students daen wark in groups for tae think on pairticular North/South airts o the jint wirkin. Ilka group haen faceilitatin frae NSMC Jint Secretariat wirkars. Dominies an members o the PSNI Armagh Commontie Polisin Team jint in. Pairttakkars wis speirt at, for tae “role play” bean Meinisters an gie reports bak tae the group, anent whit thay thocht wad be subjects as wad ansuer practical North/South jint wirkin. This cam tae in a kenspekkil an braw commeun, an a nummer futur public representars wis identifed! The Mayor o the Armagh Ceitie an District, Councillor Freda Donnelly, gien a address tae the group. Efter, the dominies as wis thaer anaa sayed at hit wad gien the students a nummer learnin outcums o vailye.



Pat Colgan CEO, SEUPB, Eamon McKee Ambassador o Airlan tae the Republic o Korea, Thomas Hunter McGowan CEO, InterTradelreland, Ruth Parkin, Airis Embassy Seoul, Margaret Stanley, Deputy Jint Secretar (South) NSMC JS, Mary Bunting, than Jint Secretar (North) NSMC JS, Aidan Gough, Director, InterTradelreland, Rosa Chun, Airis Embassie Seoul an Dr Choi o the Meinistrie o Unification, Panmunjom, October 2012.

The wark o the NSMC his brocht up interest furth o the islan Airlan. In Mey 2012 the war a veisit frae representars o the Economic Commontie o Wast African Staets (ECOWAS). The war a gey uissfu niffer o wittins anent the wark o ECOWAS an the NSMC.

Laeter in October 2012, cumman frae a veisit tae the NSMC Jint Secretariat frae the Meinistrie o Unification o the Republic o Korea (ROK) in December 2011, the Airis Embassie in Seoul maed arryngs for a veisit tae the Republic o Korea comprehendin the ance Jint Secretar (North) Mary Bunting, Jint Secretar Depute (South) Margaret Stanley, Pat Colgan CEO, SEUPB, Thomas Hunter McGowan CEO, InterTradelreland an Aidan Gough, Director o Strategie, InterTradelreland. The focus o the veisit wis on the North-South Council o Meinisters, the wark o the Jint Secretariat, an the foerhaund ettils an daeins o the twa Curns representit. The veisitars maed a nummer presentins tae representars o the Republic o Korea Meinistrie o Unification anent the wark o the NSMC an North-South Curns.

Forby, we ar blythe pittan ower the report at the Jint Secretariat wirkars wirkit thegaiter in a nummer daeins for tae gie uphauld tae a haemlie voluntar group. Daeins comprehendit fundrysin an upthinkin o a uphauld ploy for the group, at his put foer thair poseition an gien thaim inlets for tae bring on the curn.

CHAIPTER FIEV: AIRLANS PRESIDENCE O THE EU



Airlan taks on the Presidence o the EU in Januar 2013. This is the first tym a Airis EU Presidence will cam aff, an the NSMC fou wirkan. The NSMC Jint Secretariat his leukit the dounbring o onie problems as coud cum up, an ettilt at bringan thegaither Meinisterial diaries throu the Presidence. At the hinner end, the NSMC forgaither schedule for the first haaf 2013 wis, sae as wis aibil, aa sat afoer the years end in 2012. Collogues anent EU-relaet maiters an the EU Presidence wis foerhaund pairt o a nummer the NSMC forgaithers, as cam aff in 2012.

At thair Institutional forgaither in Apryle, the Tánaiste, First Meinister an First Meinister depute taakit ower the challenges an inlets associat wi the Airis EU Presidence in 2013. The Meinisters gien ance mair thair commetment tae the makkin siccar o a farder round o PEACE an INTERREG fundin an sat foer the pynt at this bes a foerhaund ettil for thaim. Thay gien a walcum anaa tae collaboration at wis efter gan on, for tae mak the maist o the drawdown o EU fundin, pairticular for Research an Oncum, an greed at it wis importan at this collaboration gae on.

At thair Juin Pleenarie forgaither, Meinisters leukit ar the abeiltie for wirkan thegither in daeins throu the Presidence, comprehendan forgaithers o heid offeicials an the giein host tae EU events. Thay gien endorse tae the collogue o EU Maiters at necessar NSMC forgaithers in sectoral format. Forby, thay gien a walcum tae ongan collaboration on innovation athin the EU, an taen tent o a successful an weel tendit “Collaborat for tae Innovat” Confeerance anent European research an innovatin fundin for Smaa an Medium-size Enterprises, at wis cam aff on 7 Juin 2012. It haen a address frae EU Commeisionar Máire Geoghegan Quinn, Meinister Arlene Foster an Meinister o Staet Lucinda Creighton.

At the November Pleenarie, the Taoiseach sat out his foerhaund ettils for the EU Presidence. Meinisters kent at the ar a mukkil challenges associat wi giean host tae the Presidence, but at hit gies a wheen inlets anaa, the lyk o the upbiggin o getting thegaither anent EU maiters at a tym whaniver a mukkil haundlins anent new transnational programs an Common Agricultur Policie (CAP) reform bes ongan in Brussels. Arraynges wis put in for tae mak the Airis Govrenment Meinisters aibil for giean briefins tae thair Executive counterpairs anent Presidence-relaet maiters

at NSMC forgathers. Meinisters taen tent anaa at, for tae help wi the demaunds o giean host tae the Presidency, twathree Norlin Depairtments his maed wirkars open ower seicondins. The Norlin Airlan Executive Biggin in Brussels greed tae mak open room for forgathers throu this tym anaa. It wis taen tent anaa at thocht bes a-giean tae the pairttakkin frae the Norlin Airlan Executive Meinisters at Presidency-relaet events throu 2013.

Meinisters taakit ower sector-pairticular relaet EU Presidency maiters at aefauld sectoral forgathers. This comprehendit Airis Meinisters giean briefins, whaur necessar, tae thair Norlin counterparts anent the Presidency foerhaund ettils in thair sectors. Gan efter the colloques in the Pleenarie, the Airis Meinisters maed uiss o thir sectoral forgathers anaa, for tae gie a inviet tae thair colleagues for tae tak pairt in necessar Presidency events.

ANNEX AE

LIST O NSMC FORGAITHERS IN 2012

The buird ablo gies the NSMC forgaithers, as wis helt in 2012:

NSMC Forgaither	Daet	Airt
Pleenarie	15 Juin	Dublin
	2 November	Armagh
Institutional	27 Apryle	Dublin
Agricultur	8 Februar	Armagh
	25 Julie	Armagh
	31 October	Armagh
Lear	1 Februar	Armagh
	15 Juin	Dublin
	17 October	Armagh
Environs	2 Mairch	Armagh
	15 Juin	Dublin
	31 October	Armagh
Heal an Meat Sauftie	2 Februar	Armagh
	18 Julie	Armagh
	21 November	Armagh
Tourism	25 Januar	Armagh
	28 November	Armagh
Transport	20 Apryle	Armagh
	5 October	Armagh
Aquacultur & Marine	1 Mairch	Armagh
	4 Julie	Derrie/Londonderrie
	12 December	Armagh
Inlan Watterweys	14 Februar	Inniskillin
	9 Julie	Armagh
	12 December	Armagh
Langage	14 Februar	Inniskillin
	9 Julie	Armagh
	12 December	Armagh
Byordinar EU Programs	4 Mey	Armagh
Traed & Business Oncum	1 Mairch	Armagh
	28 November	Armagh

ANNEX TWA

NORTH-SOUTH MEINISTERIAL COUNCIL JINT SECRETARIAT

The North-South Council o Meinisters (NSMC) is upheld frae a staundan Jint Secretariat wi wirkars frae amang 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 Depairtment o the Norlin Airlan ceivil servants an the Depairtment o Fremmit Daeins an Traed (DFAT) is the parent Depairtment o the Airis ceivil servants.

Colm Shannon is the Jint Secretar (North) an Shane O'Neill is the Jint Secretar (South). Donal Moran is the Jint Secretar Depute (North) an Margaret Stanley, at wis Jint Secretar for the whiel tae August 2012, is the Jint Secretar Depute (South).

Functions

The functions o the Jint Secretariat comprehends:

- makkan the arryngements ahint the schedule o Council forgaitthers in differan formats;
- makkan siccar poleitical greeans wi agendas for forgaitthers o the Council;
- makkan scrows or commeisions for paipers for forgaitthers o the Council, comprehendan anent its program o wark;
- makkan scrows o Jint Communiques an Records o Deceisions o the Council;
- settan furth deceisions o the Council an owerseean thair implement;
- makkan a scrow o a yearlie report anent the ongaeins o the Council;
- wirkan lyk a channel o communicatin wi Implement Curns;
- bindan, whaur necessar, throu the designat Depairtment or Office in aither stewartrie, wi the Secretariat o the Brits-Airis Intergovrenment Conferance, the Secretariat o the Brits-Airis Council, an wi the North/South jint pairlamentar forum an undependan speirin forum, an it sat up; an
- gan on wi sic ither darg the Council bads.

Fundin

Siller for wirkars cums frae OFMDFM an DFAT. Aa ither siller associat wi the Jint Secretariat an the NSMC is sindert atween the baith stewartries. The siller for the rinnin o the Jint Secretariat in 2012 cam tae £1,508,055/€1,853,663.

ANNEX THREE

NORTH-SOUTH CURNS BUIRD MEMBERS

Meat Saftie Forder Buird

Buird o Reed

Lynn Ní Bhaoigheallain (Preses)

Darina Allen (Preses Depute)

Julie Andras

Thomas Burns

Brendan Kehoe

Helen O'Donnell

Edward Spellman

Hannah Su

Campbell Tweedie

Mary Upton

Jane Wells

North-South Langage Curn

Foras Na Gaeilge

Liam Ó Maoilmhichíl

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

Eoghain Mac Cormaic (Preses Depute)

Pol Callaghan

Colm Cavanagh

Áine Ní Chiaráin

Bríd Ní Chonghoile

Liam Kennedy

Seosamh Mac Donnchadha

Tomás Mac Eochagáin

Marcus Mac Ruairi

Seán Mícheal Ó Dómhnaill

Dónal Ó hAiniféin

Therese Ruane

Tomás Sharkey

Cáitríona Ní Shúilleabháin

Éamonn Ó Gribín (taen on 20 Apryle 2012)

Tha Boord O Ulstèr Scotch

Tom Scott

(Preses o Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch/Jint Preses o the North-South Langage Curn)

Tony Crooks (Preses Depute)

Ida Fisher

William Leathem

Val O'Kelly

Hilary Singleton

Sharon Treacy-Dunne

Trevor Wilson

Foyle, Cairlinford an Airis Lights Commeision

Winston Patterson (Preses)
Alan McCulla (Preses Depute)
Laurence Arbuckle
Andrew Duncan
Phil Mahon
Joe Millar
Michael J McCormick
Theresa McLaverty
Tarlach O'Crosain*
Seamus Rogers
Thomas Sloan (RIP)
Donal Tipping
Jim Wilson

(*Tarlach OCrossain's term o ontak cam tae an end 12 December 2012 an wis taen ower frae Laurence Arbuckle)

Traed an Business Oncum Curn

Martin Cronin (Preses)
Joanne Spain (Preses Depute)
Brendan Butler
Philip Doherty
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