

**Minutes of Board Meeting of  
Strategic Investment Board Limited (Company)**

**Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company held at 11.25 a.m.  
on 16 December 2005 in Room A5.17 Castle Buildings Stormont Belfast**

**Present:** Tony Watson (TW) (Chairman)  
David Dobbin (DD)  
David Gavaghan (DG)  
Nigel Hamilton (NH)  
Greg Sparks (GS)  
James Stewart (JS)

**In attendance:** Tony McKenna (TMck)  
Andrew Gibson (AG) (item 7)  
Paul Sweeney (PS) (Observer)

**Apologies:** Richard Goodfellow

**Change to agenda**

It was agreed that agenda item 8, Broadband Aggregation (presentation), be deferred because of pressure of time.

**1 Previous Minutes**

The November board minutes were approved, subject to a minor alteration.

**2 Action Points**

The action points arising from the previous Board meeting, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, were addressed.

**3 Chief Executive's Report**

DG led a discussion on the ISNI and it was noted that the ISNI launch on the 14 December was very successful. DG expressed special thanks to the efforts of Philip Irwin and Johann Gallagher in achieving the launch. A selection of press articles related to the launch was handed out. DG requested from the Board names of individuals who would be interested in receiving copies of the ISNI.

The Education programme and the challenges it faced were then discussed and the Board noted that Partnerships for Schools had created an acceleration strategy to improve the pace of delivery of schools in England. The Board discussed the key role envisaged for the Education Programme Delivery Service Unit, which was recognised as critical and which would have to have the capability of dealing with conventional and PPP contracting.

The Board noted the good progress being made on the Workplace 2010 project and the availability of a video on the website (<http://www.workplace2010ni.org>).

The Board discussed the recruitment of new staff to the Company and noted that the Company had recruited 3 Assistant Advisers and that the 5 Advisers who had also been recruited would be joining from January 2006 onwards.

The Board noted that the occupation of Harbourgate by CPD had been agreed. The Company had intended to confirm its occupation of Harbourgate once the Department approves the Business Case.

The Board noted that the Company would initially locate in ILEX premises until a more permanent location could be found. It was agreed that the Company will develop a work plan for the North West in the coming months and will in the meantime seek to recruit a full time member of staff to be located in Derry.

The Company's participation in an Island of Ireland Infrastructure Investment Conference, to be held in Dundalk, 10 February 2005, was discussed.

#### **4 Finance**

The finance report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, was noted. TMcK confirmed that the Company was running under budget and consequently, the Company had surrendered monies to the Department in the December monitoring round.

#### **5 Media Interest**

The Board noted the media interest report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Board also noted an article, handed out at the meeting, from the Project Finance International magazine on the DHSSPS/ SIB event "Northern Ireland Health Infrastructure Investment Programme" London, 21 November 2005.

#### **6 Freedom of Information (FOI)**

TMcK gave a verbal update on the FOI enquiries made to the Company.

#### **7 Communications and Media Strategy**

AG presented a digital video on the ISNI and thanked Stephen Grimason and his staff for their assistance with the ISNI launch event in the Lisburn Library, 14 December.

AG gave a Powerpoint presentation, covering the following topics: Background, Brand, Audiences, Priorities-Messages, Plan, Resource, Next actions.

The Board discussed the need to communicate effectively with the public, using trade press for more specific matters, and the importance of the Company's web site. The Board discussed whether the Company had a role leading the thinking on infrastructure matters, or, eg if it should be a facilitator or indeed both. The Board discussed the need for the Company to prioritise

its communications to different sectors/ stakeholders, having greater clarity of its public profile, and retaining the confidence of the private sector. The Board recognised that the ISNI process was very much a communications-centred process. It was resolved that the existing good work should continue.

The Board thanked AG for a stimulating presentation.

## **9 Any Other Business**

The Board agreed to consider the Company's role in reform in more detail at a future meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 1.30 p.m.

Chairman