

MINUTES OF THE



94th Imtac MEETING

Date: 9th September 2010, The Mount Belfast

Present: Frank Caddy (Chair)
William Stewart
Elizabeth Black
David McDonald
Etta Mann
Ann Gamble
Bert Baillie
Philip Blair
Terry Butler
Max O'Brien
Norma Moore
Barbara Fleming
Ronnie Patterson

Apologies: Francis Hughes
Laura Slater
June Best
Kellie Armstrong
Houston Marshall
Andrew Murdock
Ann Collins
Kevin Doherty
Olaf Hvattum

Observers: Alan Preston (Mobility Inclusion Unit)
Gavin Hamilton (Mobility Inclusion Unit)
Andrew Adams (Ports & Public Transport Division)
Naomi Roberts (Equality Commission)
Dermot McCloskey (Disability Action)

Secretariat: Michael Lorimer

Prior to the meeting Frank welcomed informed members of the resignation of Billy McFall due to ill health

1 **Minutes of the last meeting**

1.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

Michael

2 **Matters arising**

2.1 Concessionary fares

A letter has been sent to the Equality Commission looking for advice on a number of issues. Naomi informed the Committee a response will be with the Committee shortly.

2.2 Shared Surfaces

The DfT was contacted and it has been agreed that Hugh McKenna from Roads Service will keep Imtac informed of developments with the research project. Max asked that Imtac look at work being done by Mobilise around shared streets.

Michael

2.3 Streets Ahead

The Access and Mobility Study has now been published. Belfast City Centre Management are organising a meeting to co-ordinate feedback to DSD from Imtac and others. BCCM will also be facilitating a meeting to look at walking routes to the City Centre. Elizabeth asked that drop kerb provision around City Hall be raised.

Michael

2.4 Frank highlighted the recent publication of Traffic Regulation Orders by Roads Service for Queen Street, Upper Queen Street and Castle Street. Imtac has submitted comments on the TRO's.

2.5 DoE Bus Licensing

A response from Imtac has been submitted to DoE.

2.6 DRD Disability Action Plan

Michael informed the Committee that the DRD has agreed to meet members of the Committee to discuss our

proposals for further actions. It was agreed that David and Michael co-ordinate the work. Max asked to be involved.

Michael

2.7 Blue Badge misuse

The Committee discussed a paper produced by the Secretariat looking at issues around Blue Badge misuse and enforcement. A lengthy discussion took place around ensure that the right people where targeted by enforcement. Frank asked that the Personal Mobility Group look at this issue in more detail and bring recommendations to the Committee.

**Michael/P
M Group**

3 Working Group updates

3.1 Information & Training Group

Michael updated members on progress made by the Group. Andrew Adams asked that issues around the NI Direct website be raised initially through Gavin and himself.

Michael

3.2 The other groups are to meet over the coming weeks.

4 **ATS Update**

4.1 Alan updated members discussions with other Departments around the recently published Imtac report into people with a learning disability. The Department will respond to the report shortly. Alan also update the Committee on progress on the British Irish council around developing a website.

4.2 Andrew updated the Committee on progress and timescales for the pilot of AV on buses. Andrew made clear the Department accepted the need for AV systems but had to find the best workable system. Future role out would also be dependent of finance being available. The Committee welcomed the progress made.

4.3 Andrew highlighted research recently undertaken into the social impact of door2door which he hoped to make available to the Committee. Andrew also updated members on the process for re-tendering for the service.

4.4 Andrew updated members on the Buddy Scheme which has been focused recently in Bangor. A report has been compiled on the project that he hoped to make available to the Committee.

4.5 Alan updated members on the consultation period on the KPMG Review. Alan requested that Imtac respond as soon as possible.

5 Annual Report

5.1 The draft Annual report was distributed to members. Frank asked that comments be feedback to Michael with a view to finalising the report by the end of September.

All

6 Imtac response to the KPMG report into the Review of Imtac

6.1 Observers left the meeting.

6.2 A paper was distributed to members detailing the response from the Business Group to the KPMG report and its recommendations. There was unanimous disapproval from the Committee to the tone and findings of the report.

6.3 The Committee discussed each recommendation in the Report and agreed an appropriate response.

6.4 The Committee agreed that formal response be drafted and circulated to members for comments. It was agreed also that the proposed Briefing Paper, highlighting the positive work Imtac has done also be distributed to members. It was also agreed that Ann Gamble be included in meetings with the Department as a representative of the older peoples sector.

6.5 Frank asked that members feedback comments as soon as possible so discussions with the Department can begin.

All

7 Date of next meeting

7.1 **The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd December at 12.30pm in the Mount Belfast.**

