

**Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar:
Priorities for transport infrastructure in Northern Ireland**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 20th February 2018

Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel, The Gasworks, 3 Cromac Place, Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 2JB



**POLICY FORUM
FOR NORTHERN
IRELAND**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Kellie Armstrong MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
- 9.05 - 9.35 **Next steps for transport infrastructure policy**
John McGrath, Deputy Secretary, Transport and Resources Group, Department for Infrastructure
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 10.00 **Transport infrastructure policy in Northern Ireland: a context**
Wesley Johnston, Researcher and Commentator on Northern Ireland Roads and Motorways
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.00 - 10.55 **Priorities for developing networks to support economic development**
What are the most important needs for businesses, communities and individuals in enhancing transport networks across Northern Ireland? What configuration of the road network - including the A5 and A6 routes - would optimally connect cities and towns with major ports and airports, and how do priorities in this area fit with those affecting the wider roads network? How can the needs of commuters be best addressed through projects such as the York Street Interchange in Belfast? How should the development of transport hubs and the upgrading of public transport networks in and between cities factor in encouraging greater use of public transport?
Seamus Leheny, Policy Manager, Northern Ireland, Freight Transport Association
Richard Kirk, Regional Director, Institution of Civil Engineers
Chris Conway, Group Chief Executive, Translink
Stephen Kelly, Chief Executive Officer, Manufacturing NI
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 - 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**
Kellie Armstrong MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
- 11.00 - 11.30 Coffee
- 11.30 - 11.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Justin McNulty MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
- 11.35 - 11.55 **Strategic priorities for transport infrastructure development**
Stephen Wallace, Associate Director, KPMG Belfast
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.55 **Delivering transport infrastructure: planning, development and tackling barriers to completion**
What options would be of most help in addressing challenges to the successful delivery of transport infrastructure projects, such as the A5, A6 and York Street Interchange? What roles should local authorities and other agencies play in the successful completion of infrastructure projects, including the planning committees and their work on Local Development Plans? How can interaction be improved between key stakeholders - including workforce, legal and regulatory issues, alongside rising costs - so that challenges going forward can be tackled effectively? Given the possible impact of Brexit on cross-border infrastructure development - particularly in relation to funding and project development - what options are best placed to promote future collaboration and inter-jurisdictional network development?
Karen McShane, Chair, Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation
Anne Donaghy, Chief Executive, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Gary McGhee, Partner, Carson McDowell
Shane Campbell, Chief Executive, Irish Central Border Area Network
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**
Justin McNulty MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland