



BUNREACT NA ÉIREANN  
CONSTITUTION OF IRELAND



Tithe an  
Oireachtais  
Houses of the  
Oireachtas

**An Comhchoiste um Iompar agus Cumarsáide**  
Tuarascáil ar thuras an Choiste chun na Seville, 04-06 Deireadh  
Fómhair 2023

Bealtaine 2024

**Joint Committee on Transport and Communications**  
Report of the Committee's trip to Seville, 04-06 October 2023



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## 1. Introduction

A delegation of the Committee travelled to Seville from 4<sup>th</sup>– 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023. On 12<sup>th</sup> September, the Leas-Chathaoirleach proposed that the Committee attend the Urban Mobility Days Conference in Seville from 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The Committee agreed to send a delegation to the conference by written procedure on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The event was held as part of the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in collaboration with the European Commission DG MOVE.

*Gerry Horkan*

Senator Gerry Horkan  
Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Joint Committee  
2024

## 2. Trip Details

The following Committee Members attended:

- Senator Gerry Horkan (Leas-Chathaoirleach)
- Deputy Cathal Crowe

The delegation was accompanied by the Clerk to the Committee, Iqra Zainul Abedin.

Itinerary for the Committee's visit to Seville 04-06 October 2023	
Wednesday 4th October	9.05am – depart Dublin Airport  13.00– arrive at Seville Airport  2pm – attend the urban mobility days conference
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	9am – attend the urban mobility days conference  6:30pm – site visit
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	9am – attend the urban mobility days conference  1:30pm – end of conference & depart for Seville Airport

### 2.1. Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October

The delegation attended a number of sessions, including ones on transforming urban public transport, linking urban mobility and urban space to achieve climate neutrality and a session on urban nodes. The sessions focused on the challenges and opportunities of decarbonising urban public transport systems; best practice examples and innovative solutions across the world; an overview of climate-neutral and smart cities and the technicalities around multimodal passenger hubs.

## **2.2. Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October**

On Thursday, the delegation attended further sessions relating to the Common European Mobility Data Space, the energy needs of urban mobility and mobility for sustainable tourism. The delegation also engaged with a session on national SUMP Support Programmes, and how to tailor support to the needs of cities. The Commission's recommendation on national SUMP support programmes was adopted in March 2023, and in this session, existing approaches from different Member States were presented and discussed.

## **3.3 Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October**

On the final day of the conference, the delegation attended sessions relating to sustainable urban mobility indicators, integrating shared-mobility solutions in the urban mobility ecosystem and mobility management actions. There was also an interesting session which focused on just transition and skills in urban mobility and looked at the European Year of Skills which gave a fresh impetus to lifelong learning, empowering people and companies to contribute to the green and digital transitions, and supported innovation and competitiveness. The subsequent discussion focused on urban mobility related needs, in particular training and upskilling to ensure that the available skills match employer's needs and the green and digital transition, whilst taking into account gender balance in the urban mobility sector.

## APPENDIX I – Committee Membership

Joint Committee on Transport and Communications			
			
Joe Carey TD (Cathaoirleach) Fine Gael	Cathal Crowe TD Fianna Fáil	Martin Kenny TD Sinn Féin	Alan Farrell TD Fine Gael
			
Michael Lowry TD Regional Group	Steven Matthews TD Green Party	James O'Connor TD Fianna Fáil	Darren O'Rourke TD Sinn Féin
			
Duncan Smith TD Labour Party	Senator Lynn Boylan Sinn Féin	Senator Gerard Craughwell Independent	Senator Timmy Dooley Fianna Fáil
			
Senator Regina Doherty Fine Gael	Senator Gerry Horkan (Leas-Chathaoirleach) Fianna Fáil		



## APPENDIX IV – Orders of Reference

### Standing Orders 94, 95 and 96

#### Scope and context of activities of Select Committees

**94.** (1) The Dáil may appoint a Select Committee to consider and, if so permitted, to take evidence upon any Bill, Estimate or matter, and to report its opinion for the information and assistance of the Dáil. Such motion shall specifically state the orders of reference of the Committee, define the powers devolved upon it, fix the number of members to serve on it, state the quorum, and may appoint a date upon which the Committee shall report back to the Dáil.

(2) It shall be an instruction to each Select Committee that—

(a) it may only consider such matters, engage in such activities, exercise such powers and discharge such functions as are specifically authorised under its orders of reference and under Standing Orders;

(b) such matters, activities, powers and functions shall be relevant to, and shall arise only in the context of, the preparation of a report to the Dáil;

(c) it shall not consider any matter which is being considered, or of which notice has been given of a proposal to consider, by the Joint Committee on Public Petitions in the exercise of its functions under Standing Order 125(1)<sup>1</sup>; and

<sup>1</sup> Retained pending review of the Joint Committee on Public Petitions.

(d) it shall refrain from inquiring into in public session or publishing confidential information regarding any matter if so requested, for stated reasons given in writing, by—

(i) a member of the Government or a Minister of State, or

(ii) the principal office-holder of a State body within the responsibility of a Government Department or

(iii) the principal office-holder of a non-State body which is partly funded by the State,

Provided that the Committee may appeal any such request made to the Ceann Comhairle, whose decision shall be final.

(3) It shall be an instruction to all Select Committees to which Bills are referred that they shall ensure that not more than two Select Committees shall meet to consider a Bill on any given day, unless the Dáil, after due notice to the Business Committee by a Chairman of one of the Select Committees concerned, waives this instruction.

#### Functions of Departmental Select Committees.

**95.** (1) The Dáil may appoint a Departmental Select Committee to consider and, unless otherwise provided for in these Standing Orders or by order, to report to the Dáil on any matter relating to—

(a) legislation, policy, governance, expenditure and administration of—

- (i) a Government Department, and
  - (ii) State bodies within the responsibility of such Department, and
- (b) the performance of a non-State body in relation to an agreement for the provision of services that it has entered into with any such Government Department or State body.
- (2) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order shall also consider such other matters which—
- (a) stand referred to the Committee by virtue of these Standing Orders or statute law, or
  - (b) shall be referred to the Committee by order of the Dáil.
- (3) The principal purpose of Committee consideration of matters of policy, governance, expenditure and administration under paragraph (1) shall be—
- (a) for the accountability of the relevant Minister or Minister of State, and
  - (b) to assess the performance of the relevant Government Department or of a State body within the responsibility of the relevant Department, in delivering public services while achieving intended outcomes, including value for money.
- (4) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order shall not consider any matter relating to accounts audited by, or reports of, the Comptroller and Auditor General unless the Committee of Public Accounts—
- (a) consents to such consideration, or
  - (b) has reported on such accounts or reports.
- (5) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order may be joined with a Select Committee appointed by Seanad Éireann to be and act as a Joint Committee for the purposes of paragraph (1) and such other purposes as may be specified in these Standing Orders or by order of the Dáil: provided that the Joint Committee shall not consider—
- (a) the Committee Stage of a Bill,
  - (b) Estimates for Public Services, or
  - (c) a proposal contained in a motion for the approval of an international agreement involving a charge upon public funds referred to the Committee by order of the Dáil.
- (6) Any report that the Joint Committee proposes to make shall, on adoption by the Joint Committee, be made to both Houses of the Oireachtas.
- (7) The Chairman of the Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order shall also be Chairman of the Joint Committee.
- (8) Where a Select Committee proposes to consider—
- (a) EU draft legislative acts standing referred to the Select Committee under Standing Order 133, including the compliance of such acts with the principle of subsidiarity,
  - (b) other proposals for EU legislation and related policy issues, including programmes and guidelines prepared by the European Commission as a basis of possible legislative action,
  - (c) non-legislative documents published by any EU institution in relation to EU policy matters, or

(d) matters listed for consideration on the agenda for meetings of the relevant Council (of Ministers) of the European Union and the outcome of such meetings,

the following may be notified accordingly and shall have the right to attend and take part in such consideration without having a right to move motions or amendments or the right to vote:

- (i) members of the European Parliament elected from constituencies in Ireland,
- (ii) members of the Irish delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, and
- (iii) at the invitation of the Committee, other members of the European Parliament.

(9) A Select Committee appointed pursuant to this Standing Order may, in respect of any Ombudsman charged with oversight of public services within the policy remit of the relevant Department consider—

(a) such motions relating to the appointment of an Ombudsman as may be referred to the Committee, and

(b) such Ombudsman reports laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas as the Committee may select: Provided that the provisions of Standing Order 130 apply where the Select Committee has not considered the Ombudsman report, or a portion or portions thereof, within two months (excluding Christmas, Easter or summer recess periods) of the report being laid before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Retained pending review of the Joint Committee on Public Petitions.

#### **Powers of Select Committees.**

**96.** Unless the Dáil shall otherwise order, a Committee appointed pursuant to these Standing Orders shall have the following powers:

(1) power to invite and receive oral and written evidence and to print and publish from time to time—

(a) minutes of such evidence as was heard in public, and

(b) such evidence in writing as the Committee thinks fit; 6

(2) power to appoint sub-Committees and to refer to such sub-Committees any matter comprehended by its orders of reference and to delegate any of its powers to such sub-Committees, including power to report directly to the Dáil;

(3) power to draft recommendations for legislative change and for new legislation;

(4) in relation to any statutory instrument, including those laid or laid in draft before either or both Houses of the Oireachtas, power to—

(a) require any Government Department or other instrument-making authority concerned to—

(i) submit a memorandum to the Select Committee explaining the statutory instrument, or

- (ii) attend a meeting of the Select Committee to explain any such statutory instrument: Provided that the authority concerned may decline to attend for reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Dáil, and
- (b) recommend, where it considers that such action is warranted, that the instrument should be annulled or amended;
- (5) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State shall attend before the Select Committee to discuss—
- (a) policy, or
- (b) proposed primary or secondary legislation (prior to such legislation being published), for which he or she is officially responsible: Provided that a member of the Government or Minister of State may decline to attend for stated reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Dáil: and provided further that a member of the Government or Minister of State may request to attend a meeting of the Select Committee to enable him or her to discuss such policy or proposed legislation;
- (6) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State shall attend before the Select Committee and provide, in private session if so requested by the attendee, oral briefings in advance of meetings of the relevant EC Council (of Ministers) of the European Union to enable the Select Committee to make known its views: Provided that the Committee may also require such attendance following such meetings;
- (7) power to require that the Chairperson designate of a body or agency under the aegis of a Department shall, prior to his or her appointment, attend before the Select Committee to discuss his or her strategic priorities for the role;
- (8) power to require that a member of the Government or Minister of State who is officially responsible for the implementation of an Act shall attend before a Select Committee in relation to the consideration of a report under Standing Order 197; 7
- (9) subject to any constraints otherwise prescribed by law, power to require that principal office-holders of a—
- (a) State body within the responsibility of a Government Department or
- (b) non-State body which is partly funded by the State,
- shall attend meetings of the Select Committee, as appropriate, to discuss issues for which they are officially responsible: Provided that such an office-holder may decline to attend for stated reasons given in writing to the Select Committee, which may report thereon to the Dáil; and
- (10) power to—
- (a) engage the services of persons with specialist or technical knowledge, to assist it or any of its sub-Committees in considering particular matters; and
- (b) undertake travel;

Provided that the powers under this paragraph are subject to such recommendations as may be made by the Working Group of Committee Chairmen under Standing Order 120(4)(a).