



4th plenary meeting of the FAIRWAY project

Northern Ireland

1. Date

Tues 16th – Fri 19th June 2020. The meeting will open at approximately 9.30 am on Tuesday and close at 2pm on Friday. (Exact time of closing to be confirmed closer to the date)

2. Register for the meeting

Participants can register by completing the attached form and returning it to julie.mcdonagh@afbini.gov.uk

3. Venue

The meeting will be held at the Agri-Food and Bioscience Institute, 18a, Newforge Lane, Belfast. BT9 5PX. (<https://www.afbini.gov.uk/>)
<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Belfast+BT9+5PX/@54.5634091,-5.9446851,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x486108b71c9da0ff:0xf43dfd30961f5de8!8m2!3d54.559395!4d-5.9436563>

4. Accommodation

There are a variety of hotels in central and south Belfast, such as the Europa Hotel (<https://www.hastingshotels.com/europa-belfast/>), the Malone Lodge (<https://www.malonelodgehotelbelfast.com/>), the Wellington Park Hotel Lodge (<https://www.wellingtonparkhotel.com/>) and the Crown Plaza (<https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/gb/en/belfast/bfswn/hoteldetail>). Other hotels are available in the university area (Botanic), which is particularly pleasant and close to bars, restaurants, the museum and Botanic Gardens.

5. Food

Lunch will be provided on all days during the meeting. There will be a Workshop dinner on the evening of the 18th June and dinner will be provided during the field trip day (Wednesday 17th June). ***Please note individual food requirements when registering.***



Workshop Dinner Location details – <https://visitbelfast.com/partners/belfast-castle-estate-cave-hill-visitor-centre/>.

6. Travel

Air travel

1. Belfast International (<https://belfastairport.com/>). This airport is well connected to Belfast city centre by the 300 bus service (<https://www.translink.co.uk/timetables>, search for service 300). Purchase ticket from driver having asked for “Europa Bus Centre”.
2. Belfast City airport (<https://www.belfastcityairport.com/>). This airport is well connected to the Belfast city centre by the 600 bus service (<https://www.translink.co.uk/timetables>, search for service 600). Purchase ticket from driver having asked for “Europa Bus Centre”. A taxi from the City Airport will cost ~£10 to the city centre.
3. Dublin airport (<https://www.dublinairport.com/>). This airport is well connected to Belfast city centre (duration: 1hr 50min). 24 hour services offered by Translink (<https://www.translink.co.uk/timetables> – search “Dublin airport”) or Aircoach (<https://www.aircoach.ie/booking> – Search “Dublin airport” and “Belfast – Glengall St”). For all services it is advisable to book in advance as ticket holders get priority boarding and services are often full.

Trains/ferries

It is possible to reach Northern Ireland by surface transport and there are two main route types:

1. The Cherbourg to Dublin ferry. Once in Dublin transfer to Dublin Connolly station and take the Enterprise train direct to Belfast. Tickets may be purchased at <https://www.irishrail.ie/rail-fares-and-tickets/fares-info>.
2. The UK rail website (<https://ojp.nationalrail.co.uk/service/planjourney/search>) allows you to plan your journey from any UK train station to Northern Ireland under a scheme called “RailSail” or “Ferry & Rail” (RailSail tickets usually need to be booked via The Trainline (<https://www.thetrainline.com/>) or ScotRail (<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/>) websites. We don’t believe that the UK train system is integrated with any European-wide travel-planning websites. Useful tips and hints are available from <https://www.seat61.com/NorthernIreland.htm>.

Via Dublin - (<https://www.irishferries.com/uk-en/to-ireland-from-britain/>) - Plan to spend the night before crossing the Irish Sea in London and search for “Belfast Central” as the destination. The transfer between Dublin seaport and city is by a dedicated bus. The ticket costs approximately 3.50 euros and are bought from the driver.

Via Scotland - (<https://www.stenaline.co.uk/ferries-to-ireland/rail-sail>) - Plan to spend the night before crossing the Irish Sea in Glasgow and search for Belfast Port as the destination. There is a bus from Belfast ferry port to the city centre (<https://www.translink.co.uk/timetables>, search for service 96). Purchase ticket from driver. Alternatively a taxi costs ~£10.

7. Travel once in Belfast

Buses

There is an extensive network of buses across Belfast. Single or return tickets may be purchased from the driver (£2.10/£4.20 – cash only – correct coins where possible) or there are a variety of travel cards available (<https://www.translink.co.uk/usingtranslink/ticketsandtravelcards>).

All Metro bus routes (buses are pink in colour) are included with live updates when searching public transport options in Google Maps.

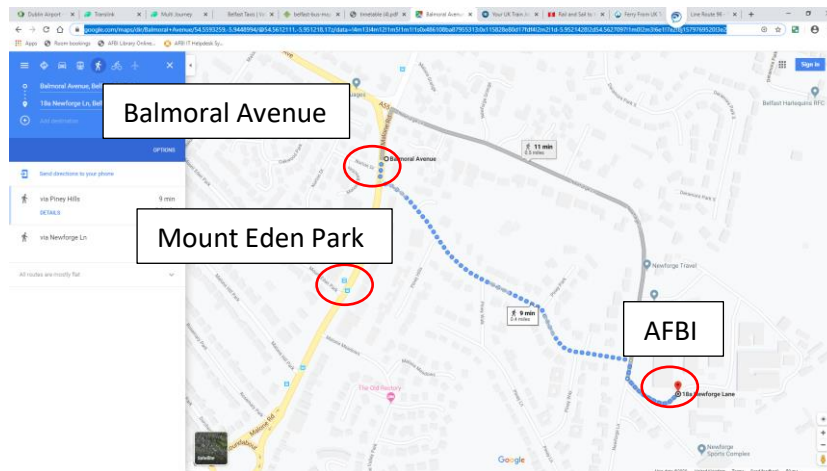
Taxis

A popular transport solution in Belfast. Taxis may be found at the taxi rank outside Europa bus centre or booked on the telephone or by installing their mobile apps. Fonacab (<http://www.fonacab.com/>) and Valuecabs (<http://www.valuecabs.co.uk/>).

8. How to get to the venue

1. **Malone Lodge Hotel** and **Wellington Park Hotel**– catch Metro No 8 bus at “Chlorine Gardens” and disembark at Balmoral Avenue (The bus should announce its location). Then follow the map below. This hotel is a 40 mins walk from the venue
2. **Crowne Plaza** – Catch the Metro No. 13 bus at “Milltown Road Ramada Hotel” and disembark at “Mount Eden Park”. Then follow the map below. Or take a 20 mins walk through the Lagan Valley regional park (<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/54.5508997,-5.9494914/54.5593934,-5.9445735/@54.555766,-5.9434697,16z/data=!4m7!4m6!2m3!6e1!7e2!8j1580115600!3e3!5i1>)
3. **Europa Hotel** and **City Centre** - Catch the 8b from the Donegal Square East bus stop and disembark at Balmoral Avenue (The bus should announce its location).

Balmoral Avenue to AFBI Newforge (9 mins walk)



9. Other practical information

<https://visitbelfast.com/>
<https://tourismni.com/>

10. Local money

The local currency is Sterling (£) and it is rare for shops to accept Euro. Major credit cards are widely accepted. Cash machines and Bureau de Change are very common. However, anyone arriving via Dublin should be aware that Euros will be needed until you have crossed the border.

11. Excursion

Wear clothes that are suitable for outdoor conditions and waterproof footwear would be advisable for the fieldtrip. Expect both rain and sun and bring a jumper.

12. Meeting costs

The full cost for every participant will be advised soon. This price will include lunches, the joint dinner, coffee breaks and the excursion.

NOT INCLUDED: Hotels, bus, taxi, breakfast and individually organised dinners.

Details of payment methods for the meeting will be made available when costs are published.

13. Contact

Local organisers

Luke Farrow. Email - Luke.farrow@afbini.gov.uk. Tel: +44 (0)28 9025 5442

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