



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Monday, 23 March 2020
Room 29, Parliament Buildings**

Present: Mr Colm Gildernew MLA (Chairperson)
Ms Pam Cameron MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Ms Paula Bradshaw MLA
Mr Gerry Carroll MLA
Mr Alan Chambers MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA

Apologies: Ms Sinéad Bradley MLA*

In Attendance: Ms Éilis Haughey (Clerk)
Ms Deirdre Farry (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Jonathan Lamont (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Brendan Miskelly (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am in public session with the Deputy Chairperson taking the chair.

The Deputy Chairperson advised Members that the Chairperson was attending the meeting via video conferencing.

** The Deputy Chairperson further advised that Ms Bradley MLA was engaging in the meeting via the live online streaming service and by email.*

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Legislative Consent Motion for Coronavirus Bill

The following officials from the Department of Health joined the meeting at 10.08 am:

Mr Tomas Adell, Head of Mental Health and Capacity Unit, Department of Health
Ms Cathy Harrison, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer, Department of Health
Mr Andrew Dawson, Director of Workforce Policy, Department of Health

Mr Nigel McMahon, Chief Environmental Health Officer, Department of Health

The officials briefed the Committee on the Coronavirus Bill and in particular the provisions which deal with a devolved matter.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

The Deputy Chairperson thanked the officials for their attendance.

The briefing session was reported by Hansard.

The Deputy Chairperson advised Members that because the Coronavirus Bill requires the urgent consideration of the Northern Ireland Assembly, the normal procedures used for Legislative Consent, as set out in Standing Orders, cannot be used.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with the Bill and that the views of Committee would be included in the Chairperson's speech on the Legislative Consent Motion.

The Committee noted that a Legislative Consent Motion relating to the provisions of the Bill which deal with devolved matters has been scheduled for debate in the Assembly on Tuesday, 24 March 2020.

3. **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

4. **Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

The next Committee meeting will be on Thursday, 26 March 2020, at 10.30 am in Room 30, Parliament Buildings.

The Deputy Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11.27 am.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____