

AD HOC JOINT COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE MENTAL CAPACITY BILL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Tuesday, 26 May 2015
Room 29, Parliament Buildings**

Present: Mr Alastair Ross MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Patsy McGlone MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mrs Pam Cameron MLA
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mr Seán Lynch MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Mr Raymond McCartney MLA
Ms Rosie McCorley MLA

Apologies: Mr Tom Elliott MLA

In Attendance: Dr Kathryn Aiken (Clerk)
Ms Sohui Yim (Assistant Clerk)
Mr Craig Mealey (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 1.36 p.m. in public session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Chairperson's Business

None.

3. Draft minutes

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Tuesday, 19 May 2015 were agreed.

4. Background Papers

The Committee noted papers on the draft Mental Capacity Bill including a Clerk's memo, the draft Bill and the consultation summary.

5. RaISe briefing – Draft Mental Capacity Bill: Principles Framework

The Chairperson advised Members that due to staff illness, this agenda item will be postponed until next week's meeting.

The Chairperson suggested that the Committee organise a "roundtable" discussion to take evidence from a range of expert witnesses which have been suggested by Assembly Research.

Agreed: Content with the "roundtable" discussion and to schedule this discussion for 29 June 2015.

The Chairperson suggested that the Committee seek written evidence from the range of expert witnesses which have been suggested by Assembly Research once the Bill is introduced.

Agreed: Content to seek written evidence from the range of expert witnesses.

6. Draft Mental Capacity Bill – Briefing by Departmental Officials

Members expressed disappointment that the Committee had not received a briefing paper from the Departments.

Agreed: Given the complexity of the Bill, that the Committee is not prepared to receive an oral briefing from Departmental officials without receiving a briefing paper beforehand.

Agreed: To write to the Health and Justice Ministers to express the Committee's disappointment at not receiving a briefing paper item in time for the meeting.

7. Forward Work Programme

Members noted the forward work programme.

8. Correspondence

Members noted the following item of correspondence:

- I. A brochure on a Politics Plus seminar on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

9. Any Other Business

None.

10. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Monday, 1 June 2015 at 12pm in Room 30, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 1.42pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____