



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Concurrent Committee of the Committee for Health and Committee for Justice

Minutes of Proceedings

Thursday, 24 February 2022

Meeting Location: Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings

Present:

Colm Gildernew MLA (Chairperson)

Mervyn Storey MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Peter Weir MLA

Present by Video or Teleconference:

Sinead Bradley MLA

Paula Bradshaw MLA

Pam Cameron MLA

Alan Chambers MLA

Jemma Dolan MLA

Sinéad Ennis MLA

Deborah Erskine MLA

Órlaithí Flynn MLA

Colin McGrath MLA

Carál Ní Chuilín MLA



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Rachel Woods MLA

Apologies:

Gerry Carroll MLA

Emma Rogan MLA

In Attendance:

Keith McBride (Clerk)

Christine Darrah (Clerk)

Brendan Miskelly (Clerical Supervisor)

Stephen Corr (Clerical Officer)

In Attendance by Video or Teleconference:

Kathy O'Hanlon (Senior Assistant Clerk)

Roisin Donnelly (Assistant Clerk)

Deirdre Farry (Assistant Clerk)

Clairita Frazer (Assistant Clerk)

Chris McAfee (Clerical Officer)

Ellen Wilson (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 1.07 pm in public session.

1. Apologies

As above.



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The Chairperson informed the Committee, that under Standing Order 115 (6), Emma Rogan had delegated authority to Sinéad Ennis to vote on her behalf at the meeting.

The Chairperson advised that that under Standing Order 115 (6), Carál Ní Chuilín had delegated authority to him to vote on Ms Ní Chuilín's behalf in the event that she needed to leave the meeting early.

2. RQIA Review of Services for Vulnerable Persons Detained in Northern Ireland Prisons

The following officials joined the meeting by video conference at 1.10 pm:

Robbie Davis, General Healthcare Policy Director, Department of Health;

Paul Turley, Assistant Director of Commissioning, Health and Social Care Board;

Siobhan Donald, Assistant Director of Nursing, Public Health Agency;

Roisin Coulter, Chief Executive, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust;

Margaret O'Kane, Director of Adult Services/ Prison Healthcare, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust;

Rachel Gibbs, Assistant Director Prison Healthcare, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust;

Ronnie Armour, Director General, NI Prison Service;

David Kennedy, Director of Prisons, NI Prison Service; and

Julie Anderson, Head of Prisoner Wellbeing, NI Prison Service.

The officials briefed the Committee on the actions taken following the RQIA report on the Review of Services for Vulnerable Persons Detained in Northern Ireland Prisons.



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A question and answer session followed.

Alan Chambers joined the meeting at 1.40 pm.

Carál Ní Chuilín left the meeting at 1.50 pm.

Órlaithí Flynn left the meeting at 1.58 pm.

The Chairperson thanked the officials for their attendance.

The Chairperson advised that each Committees would consider the evidence received and follow this up with their respective departments if required.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that draft minutes of this meeting should be approved by the Chairpersons of the Health and Justice Committees and, once agreed, would be published.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to recommend that the Health and Justice Committees, in the next Assembly mandate, continue to monitor the implementation of the RQIA report recommendations.

3. Date, Time and Place of the next meeting

The Chairperson advised that no further meetings of the Concurrent Committee were scheduled to take place and if any were needed he would agree a date and time with the Chairperson of the Justice Committee.

The Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance.



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The meeting was adjourned at 2.12 pm.

Colm Gildernew MLA

**Chairperson, Concurrent Committee of the Committee for Health and
Committee for Justice**