

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday 13th November 2013
Minor Hall, Magee Campus

Present: Ms Maeve McLaughlin MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Roy Beggs MLA
Mr Mickey Brady MLA
Ms Pam Brown MLA
Mr Sam Gardiner MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA
Mr Jim Wells MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Apologies: Mr Gordon Dunne MLA
Mr David McIlveen MLA

In Attendance: Dr Kathryn Aiken (Clerk)
Mr Mark McQuade (Assistant Clerk)
Ms Leanne Johnston (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Craig Mealey (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 2.18 p.m. in open session.

1. Apologies.

Apologies as above.

2. Chair's Business.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister notifying it of further proposed amendments to the Tobacco Retailers Bill.

The Chairperson reminded members that the Committee was holding a stakeholder event in relation to the review on learning disability and health inequalities on Wednesday 20 November 2013.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister to the Speaker regarding amendments to the legislative consent motion on the Care Bill agreed by the Assembly on Tuesday 12 November 2013.

The Committee *agreed* to host a lunch with the Cuban Ambassador to London on Tuesday 26 November 2013.

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department regarding a report by the Royal College of Emergency Medicine on the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust.

3. Draft minutes of the meetings on Wednesday 6th November 2013.

The minutes of the Committee meetings on Wednesday 6th November 2013 were *agreed*.

4. The Health & Social Care (Amendment) Bill.

The Committee discussed the clauses of the Health & Social Care (Amendment) Bill.

5. Evidence session with on the implementation of the European Union cross border health directive.

The Committee took evidence from:

Mr Peter McLaughlin	Assistant Director of Commissioning, Health & Social Care Board
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A question and answer session ensued. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

6. Evidence session on cancelled outpatient appointments.

The Committee took evidence from:

Dr. Eugene Mooney	Assistant Director, Information Analysis Directorate, DHSSPS
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Mr Jackie Johnston	Assistant Secretary, Secondary Care Directorate, DHSSPS
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Ms Anita Carroll	Southern Health & Social Care Trust
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Mrs Sara Groogan	Health & Social Care Board
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A question and answer session ensued. The witnesses agreed to provide the Committee with further information.

3.27 p.m. Mr Jim Wells left the meeting.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

7. Proposed Statutory Rule. The General Dental Services (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013.

Mr Roy Beggs made a declaration of interest that he has family members who are dentists.

The Committee *agreed* to defer consideration of the proposed statutory rule and to write to the British Dental Association NI seeking its views on the legislation.

8. Proposed Statutory Rule. The Infant Formula and Follow-on Formula (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014.

The Committee *agreed* that it was content for the Food Standards Agency to prepare the statutory rule.

9. Statutory Rule. SR 2013/247. The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation), Health and Social Care (Pension Scheme) (Amendment No.2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013.

The Committee considered SR 2013/247 - The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation), Health and Social Care (Pension Scheme) (Amendment No.2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 and had no objection to the Rule.

10. Statutory Rule. SR 2013/253. The Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013.

The Committee considered SR 2013/253. The Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 and had no objection to the Rule subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

11. Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted its Forward Work Programme.

The Committee *agreed* to take evidence from Professor Marshall and Departmental officials on the inquiry into child sexual exploitation on Wednesday 11 December 2013.

12. Matters arising.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the prevalence of child sexual exploitation by HSC Trust area and *agreed* to write to the Department for further information.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding guidance on the termination of pregnancy.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding blood donation.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding monitoring round bids.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the Independent Living Fund and *agreed* to write to the Department for further information.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the publication of the Strategic Implementation Plan for TYC.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding shared services centres.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding Muckamore Abbey Hospital and *agreed* to write to the Department again on this matter.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding Service and Budget Agreements.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister to the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister regarding DSC Signature Programmes.

The Committee noted a response from the Public Health Agency regarding the tendering arrangements for Protect Life services and *agreed* to forward this to the North and West Belfast Protect Life Implementation Group and the South and East Mental Health Community of Interest.

13. Correspondence.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding Paediatric Healthcare Services.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding the issue of mental capacity in under 16s in relation to the proposed Mental Capacity Bill and *agreed* to forward the letter to the Children's Law Centre who have previously raised this matter with it.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding emergency department waiting times.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding the Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding the Autism Strategy and Action Plan.

The Committee noted the Department for Health, Social Services & Public Safety Investment Strategy for NI Investing Activity Report for October 2013.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding the Public Service Pensions Bill.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Chief Nursing Officer regarding the Modernising Learning Disabilities Nursing Review Action Plan.

The Committee noted correspondence from Cancer Research UK regarding bowel cancer screening.

The Committee noted correspondence from the WPA Foundation regarding a health study visit to Belfast.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr McDaniel regarding reporting suspected fraud and *agreed* to refer Mr McDaniel to the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Power regarding Personal Independence Payments.

The Committee noted correspondence from Ms Warmington regarding hypnotherapy services.

The Committee noted correspondence from Dr Lynch seeking a meeting with it regarding improvements in x-ray diagnosis and *agreed* to invite him to an informal meeting.

The Committee noted correspondence from Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI seeking a meeting with it and *agreed* to invite the group to an informal meeting.

The Committee noted correspondence from Friends of Chestnut Grove seeking a meeting with it and *agreed* to refer the group to constituency representatives.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Causeway Hospital Campaign seeking a meeting with it and *agreed* to refer the group to constituency representatives.

14. Any Other Business.

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department for an update on funding for the Conditions Management Programme.

15. Date, time and place of next meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 27th November 2013 at 2.00pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.27 p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____