

**COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 23rd October 2013
Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings**

Present: Ms Maeve McLaughlin MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Roy Beggs MLA
Mr Mickey Brady MLA
Ms Pam Brown MLA
Mr Gordon Dunne MLA
Mr Sam Gardiner MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Mr David McIlveen MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA

Apologies: Mr Jim Wells MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

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 2.00 p.m. in open session.

1. Apologies.

Apologies as above.

2. Chair's Business.

The Committee noted that an informal meeting with members of the Committee for Justice had been arranged for Tuesday 5 November 2013 to receive a presentation from the Educational Shakespeare Company.

The Committee noted that attendance at Committee meetings for the 2012/2013 session had been published on the Committee website.

The Committee *agreed* to return to issues raised in a Public Accounts Committee report on the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service when the Public Accounts Committee had completed its consideration of the Department's response to the matters raised.

2.05 p.m. *Ms Pam Brown joined the meeting.*

The Committee noted allocations made by the Minister for Finance & Personnel to the Department under the October monitoring round and capital allocation exercise and *agreed* to write to the Department for further information on the proposed new children's hospital.

3. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 16th October 2013.

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 16th October 2013 were *agreed*.

4. Evidence session on proposed Organ Donation Bill.

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Jo-Anne Dobson MLA

Mr Joe Brolly

Dr Aisling Courtney Consultant virologist, Belfast City Hospital

Mr William Johnston Secretary, Northern Ireland Kidney Patients Association

Mr John Brown Vice Chairperson, Northern Ireland Kidney Research Fund

2.18 p.m. *Mr Gordon Dunne joined the meeting.*

2.53 p.m. *Mr Kieran McCarthy joined the meeting.*

3.00 p.m. *Mr Fearghal McKinney joined the meeting.*

A question and answer session ensued. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

5. Evidence session on the draft Commissioning Plan Direction.

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Catherine Daly Deputy Secretary, DHSSPS

Ms Julie Thompson Deputy Secretary, Resources & Performance Management, DHSSPS

Ms Jennifer Mooney Commissioning Policy Branch, DHSSPS

A question and answer session ensued.

4.01 p.m. *Ms Maeve McLaughlin left the meeting.*

The Committee *agreed* that Mr Roy Beggs would act as Chairperson.

4.01 p.m. *Mr Roy Beggs took the Chair.*

4.17 p.m. *Mr Gordon Dunne left the meeting.*

The witnesses agreed to provide the Committee with further information. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

6. Statutory Rule. SR 2013/229. The Contaminants in Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Food Standards Agency notifying the Committee that SR 2013/229, The Contaminants in Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 contained a drafting error and that an amended statutory rule was being prepared to correct this.

7. Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted its Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted that its meeting on Wednesday 6th November 2013 would start at 1pm.

The Committee noted that its meeting on 13th November 2013 would take place in Derry /Londonderry.

The Committee noted that on Wednesday 20th November 2013 it would be holding a stakeholder event in Carrickfergus Town Hall on learning disability.

8. Matters arising.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding dementia services.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding ovarian and cervical cancers and endometriosis.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding Programme for Government commitments.

The Committee noted a response from Barnardo's providing information on possible models for the child sexual exploitation inquiry and *agreed* to write to the Department about this matter.

The Committee noted a report on an informal meeting the Committee held on Wednesday 9 October and *agreed* to write to the Health & Social Care Board regarding issues raised.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister on children's heart surgery.

9. Correspondence.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission regarding the elimination of discrimination against women and *agreed* to write to the Department regarding this matter

The Committee noted correspondence from the General Medical Council regarding its report 'The state of medical education and practice in the UK'.

10. Any other Business.

No other business was discussed.

11. Date, time and place of next meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 6th November 2013 at 1.00pm in room 29, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.36 p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____