

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 25th September 2013
Room 29, 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 Jim Wells MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Apologies: None

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

The meeting commenced at 2.06 p.m. in open session.

1. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

2. Chair's Business.

The Committee noted correspondence from Ms Hakes regarding the investigation into child sexual exploitation. The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department for further information.

2.08 p.m. Ms Pam Brown joined the meeting.

3. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 18th September 2013.

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 18th September 2013 were *agreed*.

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

The Committee Clerk briefed members on the timetable for the Committee stage.

The Committee *agreed* a motion to extend the Committee stage of the Bill.

The Committee *agreed* a call for evidence notice and a list of organisations to be invited to submit written evidence.

5. Evidence session on the October Monitoring Round.

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Catherine Daly Deputy Secretary, DHSSPS

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

Mr David McIlveen made a declaration of interest that he is the Assembly Private Secretary to the Minister of Finance & Personnel. Mr McIlveen advised that he would not participate in the evidence session. The Committee agreed that the Clerk would seek advice on this matter.

A question and answer session ensued. The witnesses agreed to provide the Committee with additional information. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

6. Evidence session on Programme for Government delivery plans.

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Catherine Daly Deputy Secretary, DHSSPS

Mr Sean Holland Chief Officer, Office of Social Services, DHSSPS

Dr Elizabeth Mitchell Deputy Chief Medical Officer, DHSSPS

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

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

3.34 p.m. Mr Kieran McCarthy left the meeting.

A question and answer session ensued. The witnesses agreed to provide the Committee with additional information. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

7. Tobacco Retailers Bill.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding the Bill.

Clause 1 (Register of tobacco retailers)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 1 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 2 (Application for registration)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 2 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

3.48 p.m. Mr Kieran McCarthy rejoined the meeting.

Clause 3 (Duty to notify certain changes)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 3 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 4 (Changes to and removal from the Register)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 4 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 5 (Inspection of the Register)

Question: Is the Committee content to oppose Clause 5 as drafted, as a consequence of the Departmental amendment to clause 1, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 6 (Access by Department and councils to the Register)

Question: Is the Committee content to oppose Clause 6 as drafted, as a consequence of the Departmental amendment to clause 16, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 7 (Restricted premises orders)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 7 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 8 (Restricted sale orders)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 8 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 9 (Appeal against the making of an order under section 7 or 8)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 9 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 10 (Offences)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 10 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 11 (Enforcement by councils)

Question: Is the Committee content to oppose Clause 11 as drafted, as a consequence of the departmental amendments to clauses 12 - 16, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 12 (Powers of entry)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 12 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 13 (Fixed penalties for certain offences)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 13 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 14 (Use of fixed penalty receipts)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 14 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 15 (Withdrawal of fixed penalty notices)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 15 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 16 (Obstruction, etc. of authorised officers)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 16 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 17 (Offences by bodies corporate)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 17 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 18 (Amendment of the Order of 1978)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 18 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 19 (Statutory charges)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 19 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 20 (Vehicles, vessels, etc.)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 20 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 21 (Service of notices in electronic form)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 21 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 22 (Interpretation)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 22 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 23 (Transitional provision)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 23 subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 24 (Regulations and orders)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 24 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 25 (Commencement)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 25 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Clause 26 (Short title)

Question: Is the Committee content with Clause 26 as drafted, *put and agreed to*.

Long Title

Question: Is the Committee content with the Long Title of the Bill subject to the proposed Departmental amendment, *put and agreed to*.

8. Statutory Rule. SR 219/2013. The Fish Labelling Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013.

The Committee considered SR 219/2013 - The Fish Labelling Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 and had no objection to the Rule subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

9. Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted its Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted that its next meeting on 2nd October 2013 would start at 12pm in the Senate Chamber and would be followed by a planning meeting to agree priorities.

10. Matters arising.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Office of the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister regarding suicide prevention strategies.

11. Correspondence.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding the Health & Social Care Board annual report on commissioning and monitoring the implementation of NICE guidance and *agreed* to discuss this matter when planning its forward work programme.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister & Deputy First Minister regarding an event it is organising on the implementation of Delivering Social Change Signature Projects and *agreed* to advise the Committee to contact the Department directly regarding this matter.

The Committee noted an invitation from Action Cancer to an event to mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The Committee noted a report from the General Medical Council 'Making sure licensed doctors have the necessary knowledge of English'.

The Committee noted correspondence from Used Cars NI regarding men's health issues and *agreed* to refer them to the Public Health Agency.

The Committee noted correspondence from Ms Clifford regarding Paediatric Congenital Cardiac Surgery and a copy of a response from the Minister on this matter and *agreed* to advise Ms Clifford that it had no new information to share with her and other parents.

The Committee noted correspondence from Ms Warmington regarding services for children and *agreed* to write asking her to provide further information.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Thompson and *agreed* to refer him to constituency representatives for support.

12. Child Sexual Exploitation in Northern Ireland.

The Committee *agreed* to take evidence from the Department on the Minister's written statement of 25 September 2013 on child sexual exploitation in Northern Ireland.

The Committee took evidence from:

Dr Andrew McCormick Permanent Secretary, DHSSPS

Mr Sean Holland Chief Officer, Office of Social Services, DHSSPS

A question and answer session ensued. The witnesses agreed to provide the Committee with additional information. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

13. Any other Business.

No other business was discussed.

14. Date, time and place of next meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd October 2013 at 12.00pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.34 p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____