

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> 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 Fearghal McKinney MLA  
Mr Jim Wells MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

**Apologies:** 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 2.05 p.m. in open session.*

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies as above.

**2. Chair's Business.**

The Committee noted the register of member's interest entry for Mr David McIlveen MLA.

**3. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013.**

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013 were *agreed*.

**4. The Tobacco Retailers Bill.**

The Committee considered the draft report on the Committee Stage of the Tobacco Retailers Bill paragraph by paragraph.

The Committee *agreed* the Executive Summary:

Paragraph 1-8, read and *agreed*.

The Committee *agreed* the main body of the report:

Paragraph 1-10, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 11-15, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 16, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 17-22, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 23-26, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 27-31, read and *agreed*.

2.08 p.m. Mr Kieran McCarthy joined the meeting.

Paragraph 32-33, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 34-36, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 37-40, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 41-56, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 57-72, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 73-74, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 75-78, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 79-81, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 82-84, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 85-140, read and *agreed*.

Paragraph 141-168, read and *agreed*.

The Committee *agreed* that the Committee Membership & Powers, Table of Contents and Appendix 1 to 5 be included in the report.

The Committee *agreed* that an extract of today's Minutes of Proceedings should be included in Appendix 1 of the report and were content that the Chairperson agrees the minutes relating to this.

The Committee ordered the Report on the Tobacco Retailers Bill NIA 19/11-15 to be printed.

**5. The Health & Social Care (Amendment) Bill.**

Members noted that the Committee had issued a call for evidence on the Bill, that the closing date for this was 15 October and that the Committee would take evidence from the Department at its next meeting.

**6. Evidence session on the implementation of European Union Directive 24/2011 on patient's rights in cross border healthcare.**

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Heather Stevens     Director of Service Delivery, DHSSPS

Mr Stephen Galway     Primary Care Medical Services Branch, DHSSPS

Mr Bryan Dooley        General Dental and Ophthalmic Services Branch, DHSSPS

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

*2.24 p.m. Mr Mickey Brady joined the meeting.*

*2.43 p.m. Ms Pam Brown left the meeting.*

A question and answer session ensued.

The Committee *agreed* to take further evidence on this matter.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

**7. Legislative Consent Motion. UK Care Bill 2013.**

The Committee *agreed* that it was content with the legislative consent motion on the UK Care Bill 2013.

**8. Statutory Rule. SR 2013/225. The NI Social Care Council (Social Care Workers Prohibition) and Fitness of Workers Regulations (NI) 2013.**

The Committee considered SR 2013/225- The NI Social Care Council (Social Care Workers Prohibition) and Fitness of Workers Regulations (NI) 2013 and had no objection to the Rule subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

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

The Committee considered SR 2013/229 - The Contaminants in Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 and had no objection to the Rule subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

**10. Forward Work Programme.**

The Committee noted its Forward Work Programme.

The Committee *agreed* the following priorities for the period October 2013 – January 2014:

- Scrutiny of Transforming Your Care in terms of how the proposals for learning disability will address health inequalities; and
- A review of waiting times for elective care.

The Committee *agreed* that after January 2014 its priorities would be:

- Scrutiny of Transforming Your Care in terms of the proposals for elderly care and residential homes; and
- A review of workforce planning.

## **11. Matters arising.**

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the Transforming Your Care Strategic Implementation Plan and *agreed* to write to the Department for further information.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding Muckamore Abbey Hospital and *agreed* write to the Department for further information. The Committee also *agreed* to copy the response to the Society of Parents and Friends of Muckamore Abbey who raised this matter with it.

*3.05 p.m. Ms Pam Brown rejoined the meeting.*

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding Community Meals and *agreed* to write to the Department for further information.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the Service and Budget Agreements and *agreed* to write to the Department for further information.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the whooping cough vaccination programme for pregnant women and *agreed* to copy this to Ms Quinn who raised this matter with it.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the Public Health Strategic Framework.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding Data Protection Breaches.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding consultations on the scheduling of tramadol & a review of exemptions for temazepam prescriptions.

The Committee noted a response from the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust regarding staff car parking arrangements at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

## **12. Correspondence.**

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding a review of Allied Health Professions support for children with statements of special educational needs.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding the Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention Service.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding the annual progress report submission to the Equality Commission.

The Committee noted the DHSSPS Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland Investing Activity Report for September 2013.

The Committee noted a letter from NIPSA regarding Shared Services and *agreed* to write to the Department for an update on this matter.

The Committee noted a letter from Mr Corkey regarding a personal case and *agreed* to refer him to constituency representatives for support.

The Committee noted a letter from Ms Christie regarding a personal case and *agreed* to refer her to constituency representatives for support.

The Committee noted a letter from Mr & Mrs McMackin regarding a personal case and *agreed* to refer them to constituency representatives for support.

The Committee *agreed* to sponsor an event for Cancer Research UK.

The Committee *agreed* to decline an invitation to meet with the Shire Pharmaceuticals Group.

The Committee noted the QUB Impact publication for October 2013 and *agreed* to write to Professor Patrick Johnston congratulating him on his appointment as President and Vice-Chancellor of Queens University Belfast.

**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 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 2.00pm in room 29, Parliament Buildings.

*The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 3.12 p.m.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chairperson*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_