

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 12th March 2014
Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings**

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

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Dr Kathryn Aiken (Clerk)
Mr Mark McQuade (Assistant Clerk)
Mr Innis Mennie (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Craig Mealey (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 2.00 p.m. in open session.

1. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

2. Chairperson's Business.

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department regarding the provision of a MRI scanner for the Children's Hospital.

2.02 p.m. Mr Fearghal McKinney joined the meeting.

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department regarding funding arrangements for the implementation of Transforming Your Care.

2.03 p.m. Mr David McIlveen joined the meeting.

The Committee noted that the Consideration Stage of the Local Government Bill would be taking place on Wednesday 19 March and *agreed* to postpone a scheduled visit to the Emergency Department at the Royal Hospital and not to schedule a meeting for this date.

The Chairperson reminded members that the Committee is sponsoring an event organised by Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI on Wednesday 19 March 2014.

3. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 26th February 2014.

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 26th February 2014 were *agreed*.

4. Review of waiting times. Evidence session with Evidence session with Mike Lyon

The Committee noted a response from the Minister on waiting times.

The Committee took evidence from:

Mr Mike Lyon	Senior Advisor (Waiting Times), Scottish Government
--------------	---

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

5. Review of Transforming Your Care and Older People. Evidence session with Health & Social Care Trusts.

The Committee took evidence from:

Mrs Melanie McClements	Assistant Director of Older People, Southern Health & Social Care Trust.
------------------------	--

Ms Marie Heaney	Co Director, Older Peoples Services, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust.
-----------------	--

Mrs Una Cunning	Director of Primary & Community Services for Older People, Northern Health & Social Care Trust.
-----------------	---

Mr Alan Corry Finn	Director of Primary Care & Older People's Services / Executive Director of Nursing, Western Health & Social Care Trust.
--------------------	---

Ms Nicki Patterson	Director of Primary Care, Older People and Executive Director of Nursing, South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust.
--------------------	---

A question and answer session ensued.

Mr Jim Wells made a declaration of interest that he was representing residents in a facility managed by the Southern Health & Social Care Trust.

3.10 p.m. Mr David McIlveen left the meeting.

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

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department for further information.

6. Proposed Statutory Rule. The Recovery of Health Services Charges (Amounts) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2014.

The Committee considered the Recovery of Health Services Charges (Amounts) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2014 and *agreed* that it was content for the Department to prepare the statutory rule.

7. Review of Transforming Your Care and Learning Disability

The Committee noted a response from the Minister on the Committee's review on the health inequalities experienced by people with a learning disability and *agreed* to write to the Department again on this matter.

8. Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted its Work Programme.

9. Matters Arising.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the treatment of eating disorders.

The Committee noted a response from the Health and Social Care Board on outpatient intravenous antibiotic treatments and *agreed* to forward this to the consultant who raised the issue with it.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the Committee's request for a specific public awareness campaign on ovarian cancer and *agreed* to write the Department again regarding this matter.

The Committee *agreed* to write to Ms Una Crudden to congratulate her on being named Belfast Telegraph Woman of the Year.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Speaker regarding a public petition received regarding a public awareness campaign on ovarian cancer.

10. Correspondence.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding a statutory instrument on the Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2014.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding a Whole System Strategic Framework for Public Health.

The Committee noted the DHSSPS Investment Strategy Investing Activity Report for February 2014.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding sick absence in the public sector.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding its inquiry into flexible working in the public sector.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel providing a briefing on financial transactions capital.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding post project evaluations.

The Committee noted correspondence from Unite regarding endometriosis services and *agreed* to write to the Department seeking an update on services.

The Committee noted a briefing paper from the Belfast Butterfly Club.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Patient and Client Council seeking a meeting regarding its report on chronic pain. The Committee *agreed* to write to the Council to request a briefing paper on its engagement with Health & Social Care organisations on this issue.

The Committee noted an invitation from the Pain Alliance of Northern Ireland.

The Committee noted an invitation to visit a facility supported by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and an invitation from Mr Law to visit the Pavillions model for supported living. The Committee *agreed* to consider these at its next meeting.

The Committee noted correspondence from the General Medical Council.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Haughan and *agreed* a response.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Corkey regarding the Department's consultation on the future of statutory residential homes.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr McCloy regarding Accident & Emergency waiting times.

The Committee noted correspondence from Ms McMullan regarding the provision of occupational therapy.

The Committee noted correspondence regarding a personal case and *agreed* to refer the correspondent to constituency representatives for support.

11. Any Other Business.

The Committee discussed the provision of complementary medicine in the Health Service and *agreed* to return to this matter at its next meeting.

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department to request a written briefing on Connected Health.

12. Date, time and place of next meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 26th March 2014 at 2.00pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.07 p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____