

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 26th 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.

2.00p.m. Mr Micky Brady left the meeting.

The Committee noted a written Ministerial statement on a strategy for the provision of pharmaceutical services in the community.

The Committee noted that it would be holding an event to engage with stakeholders on Wednesday 2 April 2014.

3. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 12th March 2014.

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 12th March 2014 were *agreed*.

4. Evidence session on Accident and Emergency Services with the Royal College of Nursing

The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister and *agreed* to write to the Department for further information.

2.04 p.m. Mr Micky Brady rejoined the meeting.

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

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Janice Smyth	Director, RCN Northern Ireland
Mr Garrett Martin	Deputy Director, RCN Northern Ireland
Ms Fiona Devlin	Chair, RCN Northern Ireland Board and Lead, RCN Northern Ireland Community Nursing Network
Ms Linsey Sheerin	Lead, RCN Northern Ireland Emergency Care Nursing Network

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

5. Evidence session on Accident and Emergency Services with the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust.

The Committee took evidence from:

Mr Colm Donaghy	Chief Executive, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Dr Tony Stevens	Director of Medicine, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Ms Brenda Creaney	Director of Nursing and User Experience, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Ms Bernie Owens	Director of Unscheduled and Acute Care, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

A question and answer session ensued.

4.02 p.m. Mrs Pam Cameron left the meeting.

4.09 p.m. Mr Sam Gardiner left the meeting.

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

5.05 p.m. Ms Maeve McLaughlin left the meeting.

5.05 p.m Mr Jim Wells took the Chair.

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

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

6. Evidence session on the GP Out of Hours Framework.

The Committee *agreed* to postpone this evidence session to a later date.

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

7. Review of waiting times

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Lyon providing additional information on waiting time statistics.

8. Review of Transforming Your Care and older people

The Committee *agreed* a list of witnesses to take evidence from as part of its review and a number of visits.

The Committee noted a copy of a response from the Minister to a written question on vacancies and waiting lists for supported living facilities.

9. Statutory Rule. SR 2014/56. The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014.

The Committee considered SR 2014/56 - The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014 and had no objection to the Rule subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

10. Statutory Rule. SR 2014/57. The New Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014.

The Committee considered SR 2014/57. The New Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014 and had no objection to the Rule subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

11. Statutory Rule. SR 2014/59. Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation), Health & Social Care (Pension Scheme)(Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2014.

The Committee considered SR 2014/59. Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation), Health & Social Care (Pension Scheme)(Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2014 and had no objection to the Rule subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

12. Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted its Work Programme.

13. Matters Arising.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding acute mental health and addiction services in Omagh.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister to the Committee for Employment and Learning.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the provision of alternative therapies by the health service.

14. Correspondence.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding the timetable for the proposed Adoption and Children Bill and *agreed* a response.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding Misuse of Drugs Regulations.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure to the Department on an inquiry into inclusion in the arts of working class communities.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure to the Minister regarding the Community Resuscitation Strategy for Northern Ireland.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding measuring wellbeing in Northern Ireland.

The Committee *agreed* that it was content that the Committee for Finance and Personnel contact the Department for information regarding the Investment Strategy Project Delivery Portal.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Public Accounts Committee.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development.

The Committee noted correspondence from Chambre Public Affairs.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Turley regarding endometriosis.

The Committee noted correspondence from Cancer Research UK.

The Committee noted a report from Barnardo's - 'Believe in Childcare'.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Newry Mourne ME/Fibromyalgia Support Group.

The Committee noted correspondence from Ms Crudden.

The Committee *agreed* to sponsor an event for ME Support.

The Committee *agreed* to sponsor an event for the NI Association of Social Workers.

15. Any Other Business.

No other business was discussed.

16. Date, time and place of next meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 9th April 2014 at 2.00pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5.18 p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____