

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 28th May 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 David McIlveen MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA

Apologies: Mr Jim Wells MLA

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

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

1. Apologies.

Apologies as above.

2. Chairperson's Business.

The Committee noted the Minister's written statement announcing the publication of the revised Service Framework for Cardiovascular Health and Wellbeing.

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Minister about continuing problems with the health service payroll system. The Committee also *agreed* to invite officials to brief it on these issues.

The Committee noted that it would be visiting the Pavilions development in Lisburn on Wednesday 4 June 2014.

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department regarding the number of applications made to each HSC Trust for continuing healthcare.

3. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 14th May 2014.

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 14th 2014 were *agreed*.

4. Review of Transforming Your Care and Older People. Evidence session with Professor Anthea Tinker.

The Committee noted a letter from the Department of Social Development on its definition of supported living.

The Committee *agreed* to hold the evaluation of evidence on the Review of Transforming Your Care and Older People in closed session at its meeting on 4th June 2014.

The Committee took evidence from:

Professor Anthea Tinker	Professor of Social Gerontology, Institute of Gerontology, Department of Social Science, Health & Medicine, King's College London
-------------------------	---

2.16p.m. Mr Gordon Dunne and Mr David McIlveen left the meeting.

2.31p.m. Mr Gordon Dunne and Mr David McIlveen rejoined the meeting.

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

5. Evidence session on June monitoring and 2013/2014 provisional outturn.

The Committee noted a briefing paper from the Department.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister on the Department's 2014/2015 financial position.

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Julie Thompson	Deputy Secretary, Resource & Performance Management Group, DHSSPS
-------------------	---

Ms Catherine Daly	Deputy Secretary, Healthcare Policy Group, DHSSPS
-------------------	---

Mr Sean Holland	Deputy Secretary, Social Services Policy Group, DHSSPS
Dr Liz Reaney	Acting Deputy Chief Medical Officer, DHSSPS

3.37p.m. *Mr David McIlveen left the meeting.*

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

4.04p.m. *Mr Fearghal McKinney and Mr Gordon Dunne left the meeting.*

6. Evidence session on proposed Adoption and Children Bill.

The Committee noted a Departmental briefing paper.

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Eilís McDaniel	Director of Family and Children's Policy
Mrs Julie Stephenson	Head of Adoption and Children Bill Team
Mrs Frances Nicolson	Social Services Officer, Office of Social Services
Mrs Carol Picton-Lynas	Deputy Principal, Adoption and Children Bill Team

4.16p.m. *Mr Gordon Dunne rejoined the meeting.*

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

7. Proposed Statutory Rule. Optical Charges and Payments (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014.

The Committee considered the Optical Charges and Payments (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 and *agreed* that it was content for the Department to prepare the statutory rule.

8. Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted its work programme.

9. Matters Arising.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister providing an update on the Mental Capacity Bill.

The Committee noted the draft consultation for the Mental Capacity Bill and *agreed* to write to the Department to confirm when the analysis of consultation responses will be completed and briefing provided on this to the proposed Joint Ad Hoc Committee.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding an update on proposals contained in Transforming Your Care. The Committee *agreed* to discuss

what approach will be taken to its scrutiny of Transforming Your Care at its planning meeting on 25th June 2014.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding ovarian cancer awareness within the Public Health Agency's overall cancer awareness campaign.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding admission policies for statutory residential care homes.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding a central register of people with a learning disability.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the arrangements for laboratory services and workforce planning and *agreed* to copy this to the Association of Clinical Biochemistry.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the diagnosis of vasculitis and *agreed* to copy this to Vasculitis Ireland.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the establishment of a cancer drugs fund and *agreed* to copy this to Cancer Focus.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding guidance for childcare providers and their statutory responsibilities and *agreed* to copy this to Primrose Hill Nursery.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister providing an update on the development of a neonatal strategy and *agreed* to copy this to Tiny Life.

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding diagnosis of vision stress.

10. Correspondence.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister about the scheduling of tramadol and review of exemptions for temazepam prescriptions.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister about asthma inhalers for emergency use in schools.

The Committee noted a letter from the Minister about the UK Care Bill.

The Committee noted a letter from the Committee for Finance and Personnel on post project evaluations.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Chief Medical Officer thanking the Committee for participating in the visit of an expert group on congenital cardiac services.

The Committee noted a letter from the One to One Midwives and *agreed* to write to the organization to advise they contact the HSC Board.

The Committee noted an invitation from Parenting NI and *agreed* to accept the invitation, for inclusion in the work programme during next session.

The Committee noted correspondence from the NI Association of Social Workers and *agreed* to invite the organization to its next stakeholder event.

The Committee noted correspondence from the British Medical Council and *agreed* to invite the group to the next stakeholder event.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Southern Health Trust regarding an event they are hosting.

The Committee noted correspondence Dr Paula McFadden and *agreed* to invite her to the next stakeholder event.

The Committee noted correspondence from a former employee of the health service and *agreed* to write to the Department to ask how current and former staff can contribute their views to the Review of Governance in the HSC.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr and Mrs Gamble and *agreed* to refer them to constituency representatives.

The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Tollerton and *agreed* to refer him to constituency representatives.

The Committee noted correspondence from Invest Northern Ireland.

11. Any Other Business.

No other business was discussed.

12. Date, time and place of next meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 4th June 2014 at 2.00pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.46 p.m.

Signed: _____

Chairperson

Date: _____