

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday 11 March 2015
Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings

Present: Ms Maeve McLaughlin MLA (Chairperson)
Ms Paula Bradley MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Mickey Brady MLA
Mrs Pam Cameron MLA
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA
Mr Paul Givan MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Ms Rosie McCorley MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA
Mr George Robinson MLA

Apologies: Mr Michael McGimpsey MLA

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

The meeting commenced at 2.03 pm in closed session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Food Hygiene Rating Bill - discussion of evidence

Members discussed the written/oral evidence received on the Food Hygiene Rating Bill.

Agreed: To seek legal advice in relation to the display of ratings on websites.

Agreed: Agenda item 3 not required, as further clarification from the Food Standards Agency on the Bill not needed at this time.

The meeting moved into public session at 2.32pm.

4. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson reminded Members of the event that the Committee is hosting with the Committee for Education on 18 March regarding Health Services and Access to the Education Curriculum.

5. Draft Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 4 March 2015

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 4 March 2015 were agreed.

The Committee agreed to move to agenda item 8, as witnesses for agenda item 6 had not yet arrived to the meeting.

8. SL1 The Recovery of Health Service Charges (Amounts) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Committee considered the Department's proposal to make a Statutory Rule to apply an inflationary uplift to the current tariff levels for a scheme to collect compensation payments to road traffic accident casualties.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content with the proposed Statutory Rule.

9. Forward Work Programme

Agreed: The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

10. Matters Arising

- i. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the White Oaks Rehabilitation Service.
- ii. The Committee considered a letter from the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health and Children regarding Deep Brain Stimulation Treatment.

Agreed: As the Committee has already written to the Department on this issue, to forward the response from the Department to the Oireachtas Joint Committee once it is received.

11. Correspondence

- i. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for OFMDFM regarding external research relating to child poverty.
- ii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding the Statistics and Registration Services Act 2007.
- iii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Employment and Learning regarding a letter to the Department on hearing aid support.

- iv. The Committee noted correspondence from Davild McIlveen MLA regarding the Private Members' Bill on Protection of Property.
- v. The Committee noted correspondence from the General Medical Council regarding tackling undermining and bullying in medical education.
- vi. The Committee considered correspondence from Chambré Public Affairs on behalf of the National Clinical Homecare Association (NCHA) requesting that the Committee host a lunch event.

Agreed: To invite NCHA to the next stakeholder event.

12. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 2.36pm as witnesses for agenda item 6 had not yet arrived to the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 3.05pm with the following Members present: Ms Maeve McLaughlin (Chairperson); Mr Mickey Brady; Ms Paula Bradley; Mrs Pam Cameron; Mr Kieran McCarthy; and Mr George Robinson .

6. Review of Workforce Planning in the context of Transforming Your Care – Regional Workforce Plannig Group briefing

Rosie McCorley joined the meeting at 3.07pm.

Paul Givan joined the meeting at 3.16pm.

The Committee heard a briefing from:

Ms Heather Stevens	Director of Workforce Policy and Chair of the Regional Workforce Planning Group, DHSSPS
Dr Carolyn Harper	Member of the Regional Workforce Planning Group, Public Health Agency
Mr Damian McAlister	Member of the Regional Workforce Planning Group, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

A question and answer session ensued.

Fearghal McKinney joined the meeting at 3.22pm.

Jo-Anne Dobson joined the meeting at 3.27pm.

Paula Bradley left the meeting at 3.30pm.

Mickey Brady left the meeting at 3.56pm.

The Chairperson thanked witnesses for attending.

Agreed: To receive further information from officials on particular issues.

Paul Givan left the meeting at 4.18pm.

7. Budget 2015/2016 Spending Plans – Departmental briefing

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Julie Thompson	Deputy Secretary, Resources and Performance Management, DHSSPS
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Ms Deborah McNeilly	Deputy Secretary, Healthcare Policy Group, DHSSPS
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Mr Jackie Johnston	Director of Secondary Care, DHSSPS
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A question and answer session ensued.

Mrs Pam Cameron left the meeting at 4.46pm.

Paula Bradley re-joined the meeting at 5.11pm.

George Robsinson left the meeting at 5.22pm.

The Chairperson thanked officials for attending.

Agreed: To receive further information from officials on particular issues.

13. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, 18 March at 2.00pm in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5.34 p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____