

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday 17 June 2015
Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings

Present: Ms Maeve McLaughlin MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Alex Easton MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mrs Pam Cameron MLA
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA
Mr Paul Givan MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Ms Rosie McCorley MLA
Mr Michael McGimpsey MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA
Mr George Robinson MLA

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Dr Kathryn Aiken (Committee Clerk)
Ms Marie Austin (Senior Assistant Clerk)
Mr Oliver Bellew (Assistant Clerk)
Mr Innis Mennie (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Craig Mealey (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 2.09 p.m. in public session.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Chairperson's Business

- i. The Chairperson advised Members that the Minister had agreed to attend the Committee meeting scheduled for 1 July 2015, to discuss the financial situation for 2015/16.
- ii. The Chairperson referred to the review of the administrative structures within the health and social care system, and the review of the commissioning process.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department for updates on the review of the administrative structures within

the health and social care system and the review of the commissioning process.

- iii. The Chairperson referred to the recent call by a local medic for an air ambulance service.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department for information on its position in relation to the provision of an air ambulance service including details of any Ministerial meetings that have taken place recently to discuss the issue.

3. Draft Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 10 June 2015

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 10 June 2015 were agreed.

4. Committee Review on workforce planning in the context of Transforming Your Care – Briefing by the Health and Social Care Trusts

The Committee heard evidence from:

Clare Duffield	HR Director, Northern Trust
Ann McConnell	HR Director, Western Trust
Damian McAlister	Director of HR & Organisational Development, Southern Trust
Kieran Donaghy	Director of HR & Corporate Affairs, Southern Trust
Eamonn Molloy	Director of HR & Corporate Affairs, South Eastern Trust.

2.24pm Mr Givan joined the meeting.

3.34pm Mr Robinson left the meeting.

A question and answer session ensued.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for their evidence.

3.52pm Mr McGimpsey left the meeting.

3.52pm Mr Givan left the meeting.

5. Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill – Departmental Briefing

The Committee heard evidence from:

Sharon Gallagher	Director of Corporate Services, DHSSPS
Chris Matthews	Head of Information Management Branch, DHSSPS.

A question and answer session ensued.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department for: i) details, including the outcome, of the applications considered by the Confidentiality Advisory Group for England and Wales; and ii) details of any cost benefit analysis that has been carried out in England and Wales and clarification of whether a cost benefit analysis will be carried out in Northern Ireland and, if not, the reason why.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for their evidence.

The Committee considered its position in relation to the principles of the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill.

Mrs Cameron proposed that the Committee notes the introduction of the Bill and highlights its concerns during the Second Stage debate.

The Chairperson put the question:

“That the Committee for Health, Social Services and Public Safety notes the introduction of the Health & Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill and agrees that the Chairperson should highlight the Committee’s concerns during the Second Stage debate.”

The Committee divided: Ayes 4; Noes 3; Abstain 0

AYES

Mr Alex Easton

Mrs Pam Cameron

Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson

Mr Kieran McCarthy

NOES

Ms Maeve McLaughlin

Ms Rosaleen McCorley

Mr Fearghal McKinney

Question accordingly agreed.

6. SL1: The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Committee considered the Department’s proposal to make a Statutory Rule to amend the Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 to further enhance governance arrangements to maintain parity with arrangements in Scotland and England.

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

7. SR 2015 No. 261: The Honey Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee for Health, Social Services and Public Safety has considered SR 2015 No. 261: The Honey Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and has no objection to the Rule.

8. SR 2015 No. 266: The Optical Charges & Payments (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2015

Agreed: The Committee for Health, Social Services and Public Safety has considered SR 2015 No. 266: The Optical Charges & Payments (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and has no objection to the Rule.

9. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

10. Matters Arising

- i. The Committee considered a response from the Minister in relation to Transforming Your Care and its impact on older peoples' health.
Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the response to Age Sector Platform.
- ii. The Committee considered a response from the Minister in relation to the findings of the 'Our Life in Care' project report.
Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the response to VOYPIC.
- iii. The Committee considered a response from the Minister in relation to the findings and recommendations contained in the 'Older Health Matters' report.
Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the response to the Bogside and Brandywell Health Forum.
- iv. The Committee noted a response from the Minister in relation to the CLARE Project and the provision of care in the primary and community sector.
Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the response to the CLARE Project.
- v. The Committee considered a response from the Minister in relation to early intervention and prevention in family support services.
Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the response to Action for Children.
- vi. The Committee considered a response from the Minister in relation to the Mid Ulster Hospital.
Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the response to the Save the Mid campaign group.
- vii. The Committee considered a response from the Minister in relation to services for people with ME.
Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the response to ME Support NI.
- viii. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the NI Human Rights Commission report on its inquiry into Emergency Healthcare.

- ix. The Committee noted a response from the Scottish Health and Sport Committee in relation to issues it had raised following its recent visit to the Scottish Parliament.

11. Correspondence

- i. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister on the Joint Ministerial Council (Europe).
- ii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Education in relation to the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Bill.
- iii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Eating Disorders Association (NI) to the Minister in relation to funding.
- iv. The Committee noted correspondence from the General Medical Council in relation to its consultation on new guidance for doctors offering cosmetic interventions.
- v. The Committee noted correspondence from Praxis Care in relation to cost pressures.
 - Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite Praxis Care to its next stakeholder event.
 - Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to NICVA for an update on the position in relation to DHSSPS core funding for the community and voluntary sector following its meeting with the Minister on the issue.
- vi. The Committee considered correspondence from the UK Homecare Association in relation to prices paid for homecare services in Northern Ireland.
 - Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite the UKCHA to its next stakeholder event.
- vii. The Committee considered correspondence from a member of the UK Youth Parliament in relation to its campaigns on mental health issues and the War on Drugs.
 - Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite members of the Youth Parliament to its next stakeholder event.
- viii. The Committee considered correspondence from an individual in relation to hospital waiting times.
 - Agreed:* The Committee agreed to provide the individual with details of her local MLAs.
- ix. The Committee considered a request for information from an individual.
 - Agreed:* The Committee agreed to advise the individual to write to the Department for the information.

12. Any Other Business

None.

13. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 24 June 2015, at 2.00 p.m. in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5.03p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____