

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 17 September 2014
Room 29, Parliament Buildings**

Present: Ms Maeve McLaughlin MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Roy Beggs MLA
Mr Mickey Brady MLA
Mrs Pam Cameron MLA
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA
Mr Gordon Dunne MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA
Mr Jim Wells MLA

Apologies: Mr David McIlveen MLA

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

The meeting commenced at 2.05 p.m. in closed session.

1. Apologies

Apologies as above.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to consider items 2 and 3 in closed session.

2. Review of Waiting Times

The Committee considered the draft report on its Review of Waiting Times.

Title, Committee Membership and Powers and Table of Contents

The Committee considered the Title, Committee Membership and Powers and Table of Contents.

“Question: That the Title, Committee Membership and Powers and Table of Contents stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

Background to the Review

The Committee considered the Background to the Review at paragraphs 1 to 4 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Background to the Review section of the Report, paragraphs 1 to 4, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Terms of Reference

The Committee considered the Terms of Reference section at paragraph 5 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Terms of Reference section of the Report, paragraph 5, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the Committee Consideration section at paragraphs 6 to 9 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Committee Consideration section of the Report, paragraphs 6 to 9, as drafted put and agreed to”.

List of Recommendations

The Committee considered the List of Recommendations section at paragraphs 10 to 14 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the List of Recommendations section of the Report, paragraphs 10 to 14, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Discussion of Key Issues

The Committee considered the Discussion of Key Issues section at paragraphs 15 to 107 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Discussion of Key Issues section of the Report, paragraphs 15 to 107, as drafted put and agreed to”.

The Committee *agreed* that the Appendices stand part of the Report.

The Committee *agreed* to publish the Report on the Review of Waiting Times on the Committee web page.

The Committee *agreed* to forward a copy of the Report to the Department and request a response within 8 weeks.

3. Review of Transforming Your Care and Older People

The Committee considered the draft report on its Review of Transforming Your Care and Older People.

Title, Committee Membership and Powers and Table of Contents

The Committee considered the Title, Committee Membership and Powers and Table of Contents.

“Question: That the Title, Committee Membership and Powers and Table of Contents stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

Background to the Review

The Committee considered the Background to the Review section at paragraphs 1 to 3 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Background to the Review section of the Report, paragraphs 1 to 3, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Terms of Reference

The Committee considered the Terms of Reference section at paragraph 4 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Terms of Reference section of the Report, paragraph 4, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the Committee Consideration section at paragraphs 5 to 10 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Committee Consideration section of the Report, paragraphs 5 to 10, as drafted put and agreed to”.

List of Recommendations

The Committee considered the List of Recommendations section at paragraphs 11 to 21 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the List of Recommendations section of the Report, paragraphs 11 to 21, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Discussion of Key Issues

The Committee considered the Discussion of Key Issues section at paragraphs 22 to 130 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Discussion of Key Issues section of the Report, paragraphs 22 to 130, as drafted put and agreed to”.

The Committee *agreed* that the Appendices stand part of the Report.

The Committee *agreed* to publish the Report on the Review of Transforming Your Care and Older People on the Committee web page.

The Committee *agreed* to forward a copy of the Report to the Department and request a response within 8 weeks.

The meeting moved to public session at 2.10 p.m.

4. Chairperson’s Business

- i. The Chairperson reminded Members that the financial scrutiny training session would take place on Wednesday 24 September 2014 in advance of the Committee meeting.
- ii. The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department to request a written update on the review of the application of Health and Social Care governance arrangements.
- iii. The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department to seek clarification on the reported increase in the number of Health and Social Care Board administrative staff and the reasons for the increase.
- iv. The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department to seek clarification on whether the staff reductions in the Office of the

Legislative Council would have any impact on the timeline for the introduction of the Mental Capacity Bill.

5. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 10 September 2014

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 10 September 2014 were *agreed*.

6. Proposed Amendments to the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland (Membership, Procedure, Functions and Committee) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Sharon Beattie Director of Operations, the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland

Mr Hugh Connor Chair, the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland

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

3.03 p.m. Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson left the meeting.

3.16 p.m. Mr Jim Wells left the meeting.

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

The Committee *agreed* to write to the Department asking it to reflect on the evidence received to date on this matter and to provide options to progress the issue.

7. Provision of Health Services to Persons Not Ordinarily Resident (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 and the Health and Personal Social Services (General Medical Services Contracts) (Amendment No.1) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014

The Committee took evidence from:

Mr Robert Kirkwood Primary Care Medical Services Branch, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

Mr Stephen Galway Primary Care Medical Services Branch, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

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

4.10 p.m. Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson re-joined the meeting.

The Committee *agreed* to seek the Northern Ireland Law Centre's views on the revised proposals.

The Committee *agreed* to consider the matter further when a copy of the draft regulations were available.

8. Forward Work Programme

The Committee *agreed* its strategic priorities: to scrutinise the Department's approach to its 2015/16 budget; to examine the benefits management/outcomes framework for Transforming Your Care; and to examine the workforce planning element of Transforming Your Care

The Committee *agreed* that it was content with the Forward Work Programme for the period September to December 2014.

9. Matters Arising

The Committee *noted* the Public Health Agency's leaflet on ovarian cancer and *agreed* to write to Una Crudden to commend and congratulate her on her work.

10. Correspondence

- i The Committee *noted* two reports on emergency waiting times for the quarters January to March 2014 and April to June 2014.
- ii The Committee *noted* the proposed joint consultation by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and the Department of Justice on the draft Adult Safeguarding Policy.
- iii The Committee *noted* correspondence from the Minister advising that he had agreed for the Department of Health, England to implement, on behalf of Northern Ireland, the amendments set out in the General Dental Council (Continuing Professional Development) (Dentists and Dental Care Professionals) Rules Order of Council 2014.
- iv The Committee *noted* correspondence regarding Eden Day Care Nursery.
- v The Committee *noted* correspondence regarding the Marie Stopes Clinic.

11. Any Other Business

The Committee *agreed* to request an update from the Department on the position in relation to guidelines on the lawful termination of pregnancy.

12. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 24 September 2014 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.20 p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____