

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 18 March 2015
Room 29, Parliament Buildings**

Present: Ms Maeve McLaughlin MLA (Chairperson)
Ms Paula Bradley MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Mickey Brady MLA
Mrs Pam Cameron MLA
Mr Paul Givan MLA
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Ms Rosie McCorley MLA
Mr Michael McGimpsey MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA

Apologies: Mr George Robinson 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 2.04 pm in public session.

The Chairperson advised Members that a new agenda was tabled to accommodate three Statutory Rules (SRs) in relation to the Health and Social Care Pension Scheme.

Agreed: Content with the new agenda and to consider the three SRs after agenda item 6.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson raised the fact that the Minister had recently referred to the guidelines on termination of pregnancy during Question Time in the chamber.

Agreed: To write to the Minister to seek clarification on timescales to publish the guidelines.

The Chairperson raised the issue of the Budget 2015/2016 evidence session with Departmental officials at the meeting of 11 March 2015.

Agreed: To seek additional information from the Department on that session.

The Chairperson reminded Members that the Committee is co-hosting an event with the Education Committee that evening in the Long Gallery at 6.30pm.

The Chairperson reminded Members that there is a Committee visit to Scotland on 24-26 March 2015 and advised an information pack will be provided to those Members who are attending.

3. Draft Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 11 March 2015

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday, 11 March 2015 were agreed.

4. Food Hygiene Rating Bill – Informal clause-by-clause scrutiny

Paul Givan and Fearghal McKinney joined the meeting at 2.09pm.

The Committee discussed the clauses of the Bill.

The Committee noted correspondence received from the Food Standards Agency regarding a further proposed amendment to clause 14 and agreed to discuss this matter at its meeting on 15 April.

Rosie McCorley joined the meeting at 2.13pm.

The Chairperson advised Members that the Committee will be considering legal advice on issues relating to clause 7 at the meeting of 15 April 2015 and undertaking formal clause-by-clause scrutiny at the meeting of 22 April 2015.

5. SR 2015/78: The Firefighter's Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee considered The Firefighter's Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and had no objection to the Rule.

6. SR 2015/130: The Health Services (Cross-Border Health Care) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee considered The Health Services (Cross-Border Health Care) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and had no objection to the Rule.

Paula Bradley declared an interest in relation to the SRs on The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme (Agenda items 13, 14 and 15) as a recipient of the Health Service Superannuation Scheme.

13. SR 2015/120: The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee considered The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules' report, had no objection to the Rule.

14. SR 2015/121: The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation Scheme, Additional Voluntary Contributions & Injury Benefits), Health & Social Care (Pension Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee considered The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation Scheme, Additional Voluntary Contributions & Injury Benefits), Health & Social Care (Pension Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules' report, had no objection to the Rule.

15. SR 2015/122 The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee considered The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules' report, had no objection to the Rule.

7. SL1 The Health and Social Care (Disciplinary Procedures) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Committee considered the Department's proposal to amend certain presentational errors and concerns raised over the continuance of the 1996 appeal process, which were highlighted by the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

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

8. Forward Work Programme

Agreed: The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

9. Matters Arising

- i. The Committee considered a response from the Minister regarding the Commissioning Plan Direction 2015

Agreed: To seek additional information from the Department .

- ii. The Committee considered a response from the Minister regarding an update on the recommendations in the Committee's Health Inequalities Review Report 2013.

Agreed: To seek additional information from the Department

- iii. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the increase of 12 hour breaches at the Emergency Department in the Ulster Hospital in January 2015.

- iv. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the proposed Specialist Medicines Fund.

- v. The Committee considered correspondence from Adoption UK regarding an update on adoption legislation.

Agreed: To write to the Minister again for an update.

10. Correspondence

- i. The Committee noted correspondence from the Division of Clinical Psychology NI to the Minister regarding Clinical Psychology Training.

- ii. The Committee considered correspondence from NI Human Rights Commission regarding meeting the Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite the NI Human Rights Commission to the next stakeholder event and for the Chair and deputy Chair to meet with the Commissioner separately.

- iii. The Committee considered correspondence from NICCY regarding meeting the Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite NICCY to the next stakeholder event and for the Chair and deputy Chair to meet with the Commissioner separately..

- iv. The Committee considered correspondence from Dr Damoglou regarding meeting the Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite Dr Damoglou to the next stakeholder event.

- v. The Committee considered correspondence from Safefood regarding meeting the Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite Safefood to the next stakeholder event.

- vi. The Committee noted correspondence from the Nursing and Midwifery Council regarding the Independent Shape of Caring Review
- vii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Big Lottery Fund regarding Empowering Young People programme.
- viii. The Committee noted correspondence from Mr and Mrs Bovaird.

Agreed: To write to Mr and Mrs Bovaird advising them to contact local representatives for support.

11. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, 15 April 2.00pm in Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 2.30pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____