

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 4 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 Michael McGimpsey MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA
Mr George Robinson MLA

Apologies: None

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 2.12 pm in public session.

The Chairperson advised Members that a revised agenda had been tabled to include an evidence session from the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) on self-referral for physiotherapy.

Agreed: Content with the revised agenda and to consider the CSP session before the Health and Social Care Board session on self-referral for physiotherapy.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson reminded the Committee that the Minister made a statement yesterday in Chamber on the establishment of an all-island Congenital Heart Disease Network.

Agreed: To write to the Minister to ask how much the NI cardiology hub will cost, whether all the necessary funding for it has been secured and if not, where the shortfall will be found.

Mr Paul Givan joined the meeting at 2.14pm.

The Chairperson advised the Committee that 11 March 2015 is HSC Change Day and NICON has requested a photo opportunity with Members of the Committee.

The Chairperson advised the Committee that the Executive's EU Priorities 2014-15 Mid-Year Review requires departments to update their committees twice yearly on all EU proposals affecting the Department.

Agreed: To seek an update from the Department on all EU proposals affecting the Department.

3. Draft Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 25 February 2015

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 25 February 2015 were agreed.

4. Food Hygiene Rating Bill – Evidence session with FSA

Ms Rosie McCorley left the meeting at 2.15pm.

Mr George Robinson joined the meeting at 2.21pm.

The Committee took evidence from:

Mr Michael Jackson	Head of Local Authority Policy and Delivery, FSA NI
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Ms Kathryn Baker	Policy Lead, Food Hygiene Rating System, FSA NI
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A question and answer session ensued.

Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson joined the meeting at 2.46pm.

Mr Michael McGimpsey joined the meeting at 2.52pm.

Mr Fearghal McKinney joined the meeting at 3pm.

Mr Michael McGimpsey left the meeting at 3.14pm.

Mr Mickey Brady left the meeting at 3.16pm.

Mrs Pam Cameron joined the meeting at 3.22pm.

The Chairperson thanked officials for attending.

Agreed: To discuss the evidence provided by the FSA in closed session at the meeting on 11 March 2015.

18. Self-referral for Physiotherapy – Evidence session with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

The Committee took evidence from:

Ms Natalie Beswetherick	Director of Practice and Development, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy
Mr Tom Sullivan	Public Affairs and Policy Manager, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

A question and answer session ensued.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.14pm to address technical difficulties with the sound system.

The meeting re-opened at 4.15pm.

Mr Paul Givan left the meeting at 4.16pm.

Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson left the meeting at 4.23pm.

The Chairperson thanked witnesses for attending.

5. Self-referral for Physiotherapy – Evidence session with the Health and Social Care Board

The Committee took evidence from:

Mr Dean Sullivan	Director of Commissioning, HSCB
Ms Michelle Tennyson	Assistant Director, Allied Health Professions and Personal & Public Involvement, Public Health Agency

A question and answer session ensued.

The Chairperson thanked officials for attending.

Agreed: To seek a written update from the HSCB by the end of March 2015 on the pilot for the self-referral for physiotherapy service.

6. SR 2015/53: The Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee considered The Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and has no objection to the Rule.

7. SR 2015/54: The Misuse of Drugs (Designation) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee considered The Misuse of Drugs (Designation) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 and had no objection to the Rule.

8. SR 2015/56: The Health and Social Services (Superannuation), Health and Social Care (Pension Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Agreed: The Committee considered The Health and Social Services (Superannuation), Health and Social Care (Pension Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) and had no objection to the Rule.

9. SL1: The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Committee considered the Department's proposal to make a Statutory Rule to implement the new HSC pension scheme arrangements from 1 April 2015.

Agreed: Content with the proposed Statutory Rule.

10. SL1: The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Committee considered the Department's proposal to make a Statutory Rule to implement the new HSC pension scheme arrangements from 1 April 2015.

Agreed: Content with the proposed Statutory Rule.

Mr George Robinson left the meeting at 4.54pm.

11. SL1: The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation Scheme and Additional Voluntary Contributions), Health and Social Care (Pension Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Committee considered the Department's proposal to make a Statutory Rule to implement the new HSC pension scheme arrangements from 1 April 2015.

Agreed: Content with the proposed Statutory Rule.

12. SL1: The Health Service (Cross-Border Health Care) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Committee considered the Department's proposal to make a Statutory Rule to implement outstanding aspects of an EU Directive in relation to recognition of prescriptions across EU states.

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

13. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

Agreed: To request that the Minister attends the Budget 2015/2016 spending plans briefing at next week's Committee meeting.

14. Matters Arising

The Committee noted the following:

- i. A memo from the Clerk regarding the Committee Review of the Department's Benefits Management Framework for Transforming Your Care.
Agreed: To proceed as suggested in the Clerk's memo.
- ii. A response from the Minister regarding the Committee Review of the Department's Benefits Management Framework for Transforming Your Care.
- iii. Anne Watts' Review of the Department's Benefits Management Framework for Transforming Your Care.
- iv. A response from the Minister regarding defibrillator provision.
- v. A response from the Minister to the Committee for Justice regarding the Review of Handling Serious Adverse Incidents.
- vi. A paper from OECD regarding the key areas of the Public Governance Review.

Agreed: To issue a written submission based on the points contained in the Committee's report on the Department's approach to Budget 2015/2016.

15. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following:

- i. Correspondence from the Minister regarding the SBNI thematic review.
- ii. Correspondence from the Minister regarding the Donaldson Report Consultation.
- iii. Correspondence from the Minister regarding the Public Health Specialists Order 2015.
- iv. Correspondence from the Minister regarding the Home Accident Prevention Strategy.

- v. Correspondence from the Minister regarding Consultation on the Pharmaceutical Society Registration of Pharmaceutical Chemists Regulations.
- vi. Correspondence from the Department regarding the Retention and Disposal Schedule for Employee Records.
- vii. Correspondence from the Committee for OFMDFM regarding the Children's Services Cooperation Bill.
- viii. Correspondence from Kinship Care requesting a meeting with the Committee.
Agreed: To invite the group to the Committee's next stakeholder event.
- ix. Correspondence from CPL Industries requesting a meeting with the Chair.
Agreed: To invite the group to the Committee's next stakeholder event.
- x. Correspondence from Mr Larmour regarding the Child Protection Register.
Agreed: To reiterate its previous advice to Mr Larmour to contact his local representatives.
- xi. Correspondence from Mrs Nellis regarding brain injury support.

16. Any Other Business

Ms Paula Bradley retrospectively declared an interest in relation to the SL1s on The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme (Agenda items 9, 10 and 11) as a recipient of the Health Service Superannuation Scheme.

Mr Kieran McCarthy raised the issue of adequate funding for inpatient treatment for children with mental health issues, such as addiction.

Agreed: To raise this issue with the Minister next week.

Mr Kieran McCarthy raised the issue of the future of the Independent Living Fund.

Agreed: To write to the Department to seek an update on the Fund.

Mr Fearghal McKinney raised the issue of a recently awarded contract by the Department to deliver relationship counselling services.

Agreed: To write to the Department to seek clarification on the contract award process.

17. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, 11 March 2015 at 2.00pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5.05pm.

Signed: _____

Chairperson

Date: _____