

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 30 September 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: Mr Daithí McKay MLA

In Attendance: Dr Kathryn Aiken (Clerk)
Ms Marie Austin (Senior Assistant Clerk)
Ms Deirdre Farry (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Sharon McGurk (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Craig Mealey (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 2.31 p.m. in public session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson referred Members to a letter from Mrs Dobson advising that she would be unable to brief the Committee on the Human Transplantation Bill, given that the Bill had not yet been introduced.

3. Draft Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 23 September 2015

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 23 September 2015 were agreed.

4. Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill: Departmental Briefing

The Committee heard evidence from:

Ms Sharon Gallagher	Director of Corporate Services, DHSSPS
Mr Chris Matthews	Former Head of Information Management Branch, DHSSPS

A question and answer session ensued.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the Assembly Examiner of Statutory Rules' report on the Delegated Powers contained within the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill to the Department for response.

14.36 pm Mr Paul Givan joined the meeting

14.48 pm Mr Michael McGimpsey left the meeting

15.06 pm Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson left the meeting

5. Forward Work Programme

The Committee considered its strategic priorities, and the order of priority, for the 2015/16 session:

Agreed: Top priority - primary legislation;
Second priority - budget scrutiny;
Third priority - a review of the standards of care for vulnerable older people in nursing, residential and domiciliary care services.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to review its strategic priorities in January 2016.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to wait until the Committee Stage of a Bill before taking oral evidence.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite departmental officials to brief the Committee on the Department's financial position for 2015/2016 (resource and capital) on 7 October 2015.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite the Commissioner for Older People to brief the Committee on her report 'Changing the Culture of Care Provision in Northern Ireland' on 7 October 2015, and to invite departmental officials to brief the Committee on the Department's response to the report on 21 October 2015.

6. Matters Arising

- i. The Committee considered a response from the Department in relation to its request for the timescale for provision of a progress report on the delivery of the Transforming Your Care recommendations.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department expressing its disappointment in relation to the response received and to ask again for the information originally requested.

- ii. The Committee noted a response from the Department providing information on the Trauma Network and HEMS.
- iii. The Committee noted a response from the Department regarding the Review of Health and Social Care Administrative Structures and Review of the Commissioning Process.

7. Correspondence

- i. The Committee noted a copy of correspondence from the Department to the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development regarding farmers affected by mental health problems.
- ii. The Committee noted correspondence from Imtac regarding Bamford Evaluation Focus Groups.
- iii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding a Review of the Public Health Act (Northern Ireland) 1967.
- iv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding general dental practitioners.
- v. The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding the alignment of part IX of the NI Drug Tariff with part XVII of the English Drug Tariff.
- vi. The Committee noted a briefing document from Homecare Independent Living.

8. Any Other Business

None.

9. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 7 October 2015, at 2.00 p.m. in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 15.43 p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____