

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Wednesday 10 February 2016  
Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings**

**Present:** Ms Maeve McLaughlin MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Alex Easton MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Mr Thomas Buchanan MLA  
Mrs Pam Cameron MLA  
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA  
Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA  
Ms Rosie McCorley MLA  
Mr Michael McGimpsey MLA  
Mr Daithí McKay MLA  
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA  
Mr Gary Middleton MLA

**Apologies:** None

**In Attendance:** Ms Marie Austin (Senior Assistant Clerk)  
Ms Deirdre Farry (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Craig Mealey (Clerical Officer)

*The meeting commenced at 2.06 p.m. in public session.*

**1. Apologies**

None.

*2.07 p.m. Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson joined the meeting.*

**2. Chairperson's Business.**

None.

**3. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 3 February 2016**

The Committee noted the minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 3 February 2016 which had been agreed by the Chairperson.

**4. Changing the Culture of Care Provision in Northern Ireland: Departmental briefing on COPNI report**

The Committee heard evidence from:

Chris Matthews, Director of Mental Health, Disability and Older People, DHSSPS

Donna Ruddy, Head of Quality, Regulation, Policy and Legislation, DHSSPS

Jerome Dawson, Head of Elderly and Community Care, DHSSPS.

A question and answer session ensued.

*2.27 p.m. Mr Michael McGimpsey joined the meeting.*

*2.30 p.m. Mr Alex Easton left the meeting.*

*2.40 p.m. Mr Thomas Buchanan joined the meeting.*

*2.47 p.m. Mr Michael McGimpsey left the meeting.*

*2.56 p.m. Mr Daithí McKay joined the meeting.*

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for further information on a number of issues.

**5. SR 2016/4: The Animal Feed (Composition, Marketing and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2016/4: The Animal Feed (Composition, Marketing and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and had no objection to the Rule, subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

**6. SR 2016/5: The Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2016/5: The Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and had no objection to the Rule, subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

**7. The Firefighters Pension Scheme (Consequential Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered The Firefighters Pension Scheme (Consequential Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and had no objection to the Rule, subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

**8. The Health Service Workers (Consequential Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered The Health Service Workers (Consequential Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and had no objection to the Rule, subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

**9. SR 2016/29: The Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*The Committee agreed to add The Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 to the agenda and consider it at this stage.*

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2016/29: The Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and had no objection to the Rule, subject to the report of the Examiner of Statutory Rules.

**10. Forward Work Programme**

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

**11. Matters Arising**

(i) The Committee considered a Ministerial response regarding Genito-Urinary Medicine.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the Minister's response to the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, and to write to the Department to seek an update on progress on the long-term solution to the accommodation issues.

(ii) The Committee noted a Ministerial response regarding the disruption of services at the Ulster Hospital.

(iii) The Committee noted a Ministerial response regarding guidance on the termination of pregnancy.

**12. Correspondence**

(i) The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding the Budget Bill (Northern Ireland) 2016 and Spring Supplementary Estimates 2015-16.

(ii) The Committee noted the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland Investing Activity Report for January 2016.

(iii) The Committee noted correspondence from NICCY regarding the report 'Fund-Mapping: The Investment of Public Resources in the Wellbeing of Children and Young People in Northern Ireland'.

**13. Any Other Business**

(i) The implementation of the Autism Act was raised.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to include a reference to the Autism Act in its Legacy Report.

(ii) An issue in relation to Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Fibromyalgia was raised.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for clarification on whether the Lightning Process is endorsed by the Health and Social Care Board for sufferers of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Fibromyalgia.

*3.09 p.m. Mr Fearghal McKinney joined the meeting.*

**14. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 2 March 2016, at 2.00 pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

*The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 3.10 pm.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chairperson*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_