

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday 18 November 2015
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 Daithí McKay MLA
Mr Gary Middleton MLA

Apologies: Mr Michael McGimpsey MLA

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

The meeting commenced at 2.04p.m. in public session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson referred to: (i) the Ministerial Statement on outcome of the November Monitoring Round; and, (ii) the public consultation on the Individual Funding Request system.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to seek an update on the outcome of the public consultation on the Individual Funding Request system.

3. Draft minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 11 November 2015

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

4. Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill – Consideration of Final Report

The Committee considered the draft report on the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill.

Title page, Committee Membership and Powers, Table of Contents

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

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Title Page, Committee Membership and Powers, and Table of Contents as drafted put and agreed to”.

Introduction Section

The Committee considered the Introduction section of the report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Introduction, paragraphs 1 to 10, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Consideration of the Bill

The Committee considered the Consideration of the Bill section of the report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Consideration of the Bill section of the report, paragraphs 13 to 166, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Clause by Clause Consideration of the Bill

The Committee considered the Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill section of the report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill section of the report, as drafted put and agreed to”.

Executive summary

The Committee considered the draft Executive Summary of the report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the Executive Summary as drafted put and agreed to”.

Appendices

The Committee considered the Appendices section of the report.

“Question: That the Committee is content with the contents of Appendices to be included in the report put and agreed to”.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content for the Chairperson to approve the Minutes of Proceedings of today’s meeting for inclusion in the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to order the Report on the Health and Social Services (Control of Data Processing) Bill (NIA 52/11-16) to be published.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that an electronic copy of the Bill report should be sent to all organisations and individuals who provided evidence to the Committee on the Bill.

5. Human Transplantation Bill (PMB) - handling arrangements

The Committee discussed its legislative programme.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister to request that he reconsiders his decision to introduce the Health and Personal Social Services (Amendment) Bill this mandate, given the legislative programme facing the Committee.

The Committee discussed handling arrangements for the Committee Stage of the Human Transplantation Bill.

2.31pm Mr Daithí McKay joined the meeting.

2.34pm Mr Thomas Buchanan joined the meeting.

2.38pm Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson joined the meeting.

Mrs Dobson declared an interest as the Bill Sponsor.

The Chairperson proposed that:

(i) that a call for evidence would be issued with a closing date of 4 December 2015 in the three main newspapers, on the Assembly website, and to the list of consultees in the Clerk’s memo and Professor John Fabre (Kings College London) and Rafael Matesanz (Ministry of Health, Social Services & Equity, Spain); (ii) that the Committee stage be extended to 5 February 2016; (iii) that consultants from the Belfast HSCT, and international experts to include those from Wales and Spain, be invited to give oral evidence before Christmas recess; (iv) that the Committee writes to the Minister to ask (a) what support the Department can provide to the Committee in terms of bringing forward amendments for its consideration in terms of strengthening the Bill; and (b) what support the Department can provide to the Bill Sponsor in terms of strengthening the Bill.

The Committee divided: Ayes 5; Noes 4; Abstain 0

AYES: Ms Maeve McLaughlin
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson
Ms Rosie McCorley
Mr Kieran McCarthy
Mr Daithí McKay

NOES: Mr Alex Easton
Mr Thomas Buchanan
Mrs Pam Cameron
Mr Gary Middleton

6. Health and Personal Social Services (Amendment) Bill- handling arrangements.

This item was discussed under Agenda item 5.

7. Briefing from Health and Social Care Trusts on key priorities for 2015/16 and the impact of saving plans for 2015/16

The Committee heard evidence from:

Ms Elaine Way	Chief Executive, Western HSCT
Dr Tony Stevens	Chief Executive, Northern HSCT
Mr Hugh McCaughey	Chief Executive, South Eastern HSCT
Ms Paula Clarke	Chief Executive, Southern HSCT
Mr Michael McBride	Chief Executive, Belfast HSCT

A question and answer session ensued.

Agreed: The representatives of the Health and Social Care Trusts agreed to provide further information on a range of issues.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

3.59pm Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson left the meeting

4.09 pm Mr Thomas Buchanan left the meeting

8. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

9. Matters Arising

The Committee noted a response from the Minister providing a report on progress on the delivery of the 99 Transforming Your Care recommendations.

5.28 pm Mrs Pam Cameron left the meeting

5.33pm Mr Daithí McKay left the meeting

10. Correspondence

- (i) The Committee noted a Ministerial letter regarding the Autism Strategy.
- (ii) The Committee noted correspondence from the Speaker regarding the Autism Services Public Petition.
- (iii) The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding the monitoring of savings delivery plans 2014-15.
- (iv) The Committee noted an Assembly research paper on waiting times for outpatients.
- (v) The Committee noted the EU Matters Newsletter 08/2015.
- (vi) The Committee considered a request from the Health Service Workforce Alliance to meet the Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite the Health Service Workforce Alliance to the next stakeholder event.

- (vii) The Committee considered correspondence from the University of Ulster regarding research on mental health recovery in young people.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite the Institute of Nursing and Health Research to the next stakeholder event.

11. Any Other Business

None.

12. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 25 November 2015, at 2.00 pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5.36 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____