

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 23 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
Ms Rosie McCorley MLA
Mr Daithí McKay MLA
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA
Mr George Robinson MLA

Apologies: Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA
Mr Michael McGimpsey 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 2.12 p.m. in closed session.

1. Apologies

Apologies are detailed above.

2. Committee Review on Workforce Planning in the Context of Transforming Your Care – Consideration of Final Report

The Committee considered proposed amendments to the draft Report on Workforce Planning in the Context of Transforming Your Care.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the proposed amendments.

2.16pm Mr McKinney joined the meeting.

Title, Committee Membership and Powers, Table of Contents

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

“Question: That the Title, Committee Membership and Powers and Table of Contents stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

Terms of Reference

The Committee considered the Terms of Reference section at paragraphs 1 to 6 of the Report.

“Question: That the Terms of Reference at paragraphs 1 to 6 stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the Committee Consideration at paragraphs 7 to 10 of the Report.

“Question: That the Committee Consideration at paragraphs 7 to 10 stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

List of Recommendations

The Committee considered the list of Recommendations at paragraphs 11 to 27 of the Report.

“Question: That the List of Recommendations as amended stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

Discussion of Key Issues

The Committee considered the status of Transforming Your Care and its role in terms of workforce planning at paragraphs 28 to 47.

“Question: That paragraphs 28 to 47 stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

The Committee considered the progress made on workforce planning at a regional level at paragraphs 48 to 67.

“Question: That the section on ‘Progress made on workforce planning at a regional level’ as amended stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

The Committee considered the projected size of the workforce at paragraphs 68 to 77.

“Question: That paragraphs 68 to 77 stand part of the Report put and agreed to”.

The Committee considered the role of the Regional Workforce Planning Group and its engagement with key stakeholders at paragraphs 78 to 97.

4.36pm Mrs Dobson left the meeting.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department seeking clarification on the authority the Department has to legislate on the domestic advertising of e-cigarettes.

8. SL1 – The New Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (Amendment) (No.3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Committee considered the Department’s proposal to amend the New Firefighters’ Pension Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2007 to revoke Article 61(6).

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

9. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

10. Matters Arising

The Committee considered a response from the Department regarding the Committee’s Report on Waiting Times for Elective Care.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the response and await the plan due in the autumn.

11. Correspondence

- i. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission Report on the UK compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- ii. The Committee noted an invitation from UNISON regarding an international conference exploring opportunities for expansion of the UNISON/Health Service Partnerships.
- iii. The Committee considered correspondence from the Festival Director of the Northern Ireland Mental Health Arts and Film Festival, asking the Committee to sponsor the festival’s launch in January 2016 and seeking guidance on organising a separate event.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to sponsor the festival launch and refer the writer to the Assembly Events office for guidance on the separate event.

12. Any Other Business

The implementation of the action plan associated with the Autism Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 was raised.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request an update on the implementation of the action plan associated with the Autism Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

13. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 30 September 2015, at 2.00 p.m. in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.46p.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____