

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Wednesday 4 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 Michael McGimpsey MLA  
Mr Daithí McKay MLA  
Mr Fearghal McKinney MLA  
Mr George Robinson MLA

**Apologies:** None

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

*The meeting commenced at 2.07 p.m. in closed session.*

**1. Apologies**

None.

**2. Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill –final deliberations**

The Committee discussed the clauses of the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill.

*2.08pm Mr McKinney joined the meeting.*

*2.09pm Mr Robinson joined the meeting.*

*2.10pm Mrs Dobson joined the meeting.*

*2.13pm Ms Cameron joined the meeting.*

*2.42pm Mr McKay joined the meeting.*

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to seek a Ministerial assurance in relation to Clause 1(15) of the Bill.

*The meeting moved to public session at 3.09pm.*

### **3. Chairperson's Business**

- i. The Chairperson referred to a letter from the Minister regarding reform of the Health and Social Care Service.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Minister to request that he attends a Committee meeting to outline his proposals for reform and the way forward.

- ii. The Chairperson referred to the recent media reports that children with potentially deadly heart conditions are waiting almost a year for a first appointment with a hospital doctor.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for a further update on the Children's Heart Services network.

- iii. The Chairperson referred to the action plan aimed at reducing hospital waiting times.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request an update on the action plan.

### **4. Draft Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 21 October 2015**

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 21 October 2015 were agreed.

### **5. Human Transplantation Bill (PMB) - briefing from Bill sponsor**

The Committee heard evidence from:

Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson	MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
Mr Andrew Cromwell	Assistant to Jo-Anne Dobson, MLA
Mr Donald Cairnduff	Northern Ireland Transplant Forum

A question and answer session ensued.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

4.04pm Mr McKay left the meeting.  
4.16pm Mr Easton left the meeting.  
4.54pm Mr McCarthy left the meeting.  
5.00pm Ms McCorley left the meeting.

**6. Human Transplantation Bill (PMB) - handling arrangements**

The Committee considered handling arrangements for the Committee Stage of the Human Transplantation Bill, subject to the Bill passing Second Stage.

**7. SR 2015 No. 355 - The New Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Amendment) (No 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered The New Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Amendment) (No 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 and had no objection to the Rule.

**8. Forward Work Programme**

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

The Committee noted a letter from the Permanent Secretary regarding the forthcoming briefing with Trust Chief Executives.

**9. Matters Arising**

The Committee noted a letter from the Department providing clarification on its authority to legislate on the domestic advertising of e-cigarettes.

**10. Correspondence**

- (i) The Committee noted a letter from the Minister regarding Health Service Workers Regulations.
- (ii) The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding the Vulnerable Persons Relocating Scheme.
- (iii) The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Education regarding the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Bill.
- (iv) The Committee noted further correspondence from the Committee for Education regarding the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Bill.
- (v) The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding the National Statistics Consultation on proposed changes to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety publications.
- (vi) The Committee noted correspondence from the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) regarding Child Sexual Exploitation.
- (vii) The Committee noted the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland Investing Activity Report October 2015.

(viii) The Committee noted a report from the Commissioner for Older People Northern Ireland on Domiciliary Care in Northern Ireland, October 2015.

(ix) The Committee considered correspondence from Cancer Research UK, asking the Committee to sponsor the launch of its report on Tuesday 22 March 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to sponsor the report launch.

(x) The Committee considered correspondence from Action Mental Health requesting an opportunity to make a presentation to the Committee on the research report by Queen's University on mental health provision.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite the organisation to the next stakeholder event.

(xi) The Committee noted correspondence from an individual regarding cervical screening.

**11. Any Other Business**

None.

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

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 11 November 2015, at 2.00 pm in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

*The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5.17 pm.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Chairperson*

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