

# COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Wednesday 9 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 Fearghal McKinney MLA  
Mr George Robinson MLA

**Apologies:** None.

**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 3.01 p.m. in closed session.*

**1. Apologies**

None.

**2. Committee Review on Workforce Planning in the Context of Transforming Your Care – Discussion on Draft Recommendations**

The Committee discussed draft recommendations in relation to its Review on Workforce Planning in the Context of Transforming Your Care.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to consider revised draft recommendations at its meeting on 16 September 2015.

*15.18pm Mrs Dobson joined the meeting.*

*The meeting moved to public session at 3.24pm.*

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

- i. The Chairperson referred to a response from the Minister providing an update on both the review of the HSC administrative structures and the review of the commissioning process.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for a further update on the reviews.

- ii. The Chairperson referred to a response from the Minister in relation to the Department's legislative programme.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for clarification of the provisions in the Health Miscellaneous Provisions Bill.

- iii. The Chairperson advised Members that Mrs Dobson's Bill on Human Transplantation was scheduled for Introduction to the Assembly on 21 September 2015.

*Agreed:* Mrs Dobson agreed to confirm her availability to brief the Committee on the Bill.

### **4. Draft Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 1 July 2015**

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Wednesday 1 July 2015 were agreed.

*3.30pm Mrs Cameron left the meeting.*

### **5. Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill – Briefing by the Privacy Advisory Committee and the Law Centre NI**

The Committee heard evidence from:

Dr Colin Harper                      Assistant Director, Law Centre NI

Professor Roy McClelland      Chairman, Privacy Advisory Committee

A question and answer session ensued.

*15.58pm Mr Givan left the meeting.*

*16.10pm Mr Robinson left the meeting.*

*16.20pm Mrs Dobson left the meeting.*

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for attending.

**6. Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill – Further Handling Arrangements for Committee Stage**

The Committee considered the written evidence it had received in relation to the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission; Rare Disease Partnership; Cancer Registry; Fire and Rescue Service; Information Commissioner’s Office; Royal College of Psychiatrists and the Royal College of Nursing to give oral evidence on Bill.

The Committee considered an extension to the Committee Stage of the Bill.

*Question put and agreed:.*

*“That, in accordance with Standing Order 33(4), the period referred to in Standing Order 33(2) be extended to 20 November 2015, in relation to the Committee Stage of the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill (NIA 52/11-16).”*

**7. SR 2015/278: The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered the Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and had no objection to the Rule.

**8. S.R. 2015/321: The Country of Origin of Certain Meats Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered the Country of Origin of Certain Meats Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and had no objection to the Rule.

**9. Matters Arising**

- i. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the Health and Social Care (Control of Data Processing) Bill.
- ii. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding Transforming Your Care.
- iii. The Committee considered a response from the Minister indicating that a progress report on the implementation of the Transforming Your Care recommendations would be available following summer recess.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request a clearer indication of the timescale for provision of the progress report.

- iv. The Committee considered a response from the Minister regarding a Patient Appointment Reminder System.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to forward the correspondence to the individual who raised the issue.

- v. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding stroke prevention.

- vi. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding an ageing population.
- vii. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the provision of continence products.
- viii. The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding the provision of an air ambulance service.

## 10. Correspondence

- i. The Committee considered a Written Ministerial Statement regarding the Trauma Network and Helicopter Emergency Medical Service HEMS Public Consultation.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for: i) a breakdown of the costs associated with the Trauma Network and HEMS, including details of the likely source of funding; and ii) details of the timescales for consultation and implementation.

- ii. The Committee considered the RQIA report on the Quality Assurance of the Review of Handling of Serious Adverse Incidents between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2013.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for: i) its view on the independent and accountable nature of the Review given that the Trusts were asked to review the handling of SAIs in their own areas; ii) how those SAIs that came to the public's attention performed in the review and how they influenced the learning points/recommendations for improvement in the handling of SAIs; and iii) what method was used to select the 30 cases for audit, and by whom were they selected.

- iii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding a consultation on the Branded Medicines Pricing Scheme.
- iv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding the Westminster Human Medicines (Amendment) (No.3) Regulations.
- v. The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding the consultation on the Health and Social Care (Disciplinary Procedures) (Amendment) Regulations.
- vi. The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding the Revised Service Framework for Respiratory Health and Wellbeing.
- vii. The Committee noted a copy of correspondence from the Minister to the Committee for Education regarding the Special Educational Needs and Disability Bill.
- viii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding the Consultation on Regulations under the Tobacco Retailers Act.
- ix. The Committee noted the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland Investing Activity Report for July 2015.
- x. The Committee noted the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland Investing Activity Report for August 2015.

- xi. The Committee noted the Northern Health and Social Care Trust Annual Report and Accounts 2013/14 and 2014/15.
- xii. The Committee noted the Northern Health and Social Care Board and Public Health Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2014/15.
- xiii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding the Northern Ireland Executive's Draft Strategic EU Priorities for 2015/16.
- xiv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding its Inquiry into Building a United Community.
- xv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding the Office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels Director's Report for the period January to June 2015.
- xvi. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel providing a copy of an Assembly Research paper on Departmental Financial Forecasting.
- xvii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel regarding sickness absence in the public sector.
- xviii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Ministry of Defence regarding emergency powers for its fire fighters.
- xix. The Committee considered a request from the Services Industrial Professional and Technical Union (SIPTU) to attend the next stakeholder event.  
*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite SIPTU to the Committee's next stakeholder event.
- xx. The Committee considered a request from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health to attend the next stakeholder event.  
*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health to the Committee's next stakeholder event.
- xxi. The Committee considered a request from Contact NI to attend the next stakeholder event.  
*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite Contact NI to the Committee's next stakeholder meeting.
- xxii. The Committee considered a request from the Castlederg Support Group to attend the next stakeholder event.  
*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite the Castlederg Support Group to the Committee's next stakeholder event.
- xxiii. The Committee noted an invite to meet the Chief Executive of the National Aids Trust.
- xxiv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission regarding Alternative Care and Children's Rights.
- xxv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Participation and Practice of the Rights Group regarding the Card Before You Leave Scheme.

- xxvi. The Committee noted correspondence from Specsavers regarding Audiology Provision.
- xxvii. The Committee noted correspondence from UNISON regarding a Residential Home Campaign.
- xxviii. The Committee considered correspondence from Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke Association regarding Disability Action transport.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for Regional Development expressing its concern at the reduction in funding for disability transport services.

- xxix. The Committee noted correspondence from the Children’s Law Centre regarding the Northern Ireland Young People’s Report and Northern Ireland NGO Alternative Report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- xxx. The Committee noted correspondence from the General Medical Council regarding a Cosmetic Practice Consultation.
- xxxi. The Committee noted correspondence from the Inclusive Mobility and Transport Advisory Committee (IMTAC) regarding a new Accessible Transport Strategy.
- xxxii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Omagh Access Forum regarding Mucopolysaccharide Morquio Disease.
- xxxiii. The Committee noted a copy of correspondence from an individual to the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust.
- xxxiv. The Committee noted correspondence from an individual regarding pay issues.  
*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to respond to the individual advising him to contact his constituency MLAs.
- xxxv. The Committee noted a copy of correspondence from an individual to the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust.

**11. Any Other Business**

None.

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

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 16 September 2015, at 3.00 p.m. in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

*The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.44 p.m.*

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

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