



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

# Committee for Health

## Minutes of Proceedings

**15 May 2025**

**Meeting Location:** Room 29, Parliament Buildings

**Present:**

- Philip McGuigan MLA (Chairperson)
- Danny Donnelly MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
- Alan Chambers MLA
- Diane Dodds MLA
- Órlaithí Flynn MLA
- Nuala McAllister MLA
- Alan Robinson MLA

**Apologies:** None

**Present by Video or Teleconference:**

Linda Dillon MLA

Colin McGrath MLA

**In Attendance:** Keith McBride, Clerk  
Oliver Bellew, Assistant Clerk  
Angela McParland, Assistant Clerk  
Jonathan Lamont, Clerical Supervisor  
Martina Mullin-O'Hare, Clerical Officer

The meeting commenced at 2.00pm in public session.

**1. Committee Inquiry: Access to Palliative Care Services - Oral Briefing by Southern Area Hospice Services**

The following representatives joined the meeting at 2.05pm:

- Liz Cuddy, Chief Executive, Southern Area Hospice;
- Bridget Lynch, Director of Care, Southern Area Hospice; and,
- Bernie Torley, Nurse Manager, Southern Area Hospice.

The Chairperson welcomed the representatives and thanked them and their organisation for their contributions to the inquiry to date.

The representatives briefed the Committee on Access to Palliative Care.

Órlaithí Flynn joined the meeting at 2.10pm.

Diane Dodds joined the meeting at 2.29pm.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairperson thanked the witnesses and their organisation for the work it does in providing palliative care and for providing such a comprehensive briefing.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their attendance.

The briefing session was reported by Hansard.

[Extract]