



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee for Health

Minutes of Proceedings

27 March 2025

Meeting Location: Room 29, Parliament Buildings

Present:

Philip McGuigan MLA (Chairperson)

Danny Donnelly MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Alan Chambers MLA

Linda Dillon MLA

Diane Dodds MLA

Nuala McAllister MLA

Alan Robinson MLA

Present by Video or Teleconference:

Órlaithí Flynn MLA

Apologies: Colin McGrath MLA

In Attendance: Keith McBride, Clerk

Oliver Bellew, Assistant Clerk

Angela McParland, Assistant Clerk

Stephen McGlennon, Clerical Officer

The meeting commenced at 2.02pm in public session.

1. Committee Inquiry: Access to Palliative Care Services – Oral Briefing by Representatives of the All-Ireland Institute of Hospice & Palliative Care Services

The following representatives joined the meeting at 3.46pm:

- Fintan Fagan, Chairperson, AllHPC;
- Melanie Nugent, Programme Manager – Education and Practice, AllHPC;
- Paula Pinto, Programme Manager – Policy and Engagement, AllHPC ;and,
- Prof. Joanne Reid, Chair of Cancer and Palliative Care, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Queens University Belfast.

The representatives briefed the Committee on Access to Palliative Care Services.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

Órlaithí Flynn MLA left the meeting at 4.20pm.

Agreed: The representatives agreed to provide further detail on developments in the Republic of Ireland in facilitating nurses as prescribers, including any evaluations carried out on the matter.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their attendance.

The briefing session was reported by Hansard.

[Extract]