



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee for Health

Minutes of Proceedings

26 June 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

Órlaithí Flynn MLA

Nuala McAllister MLA

Colin McGrath MLA

Alan Robinson MLA

Apologies:

None

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

The meeting commenced at 2.02pm in public session.

1. Committee Inquiry: Access to Palliative Care Services – Northern Ireland Palliative Care Pharmacists Group

The following representative joined the meeting at 2.16pm:

- Peter Armstrong, Chairperson, Northern Ireland Palliative Care Pharmacists Group.

The representative briefed the Committee on access to palliative care services.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

Nuala McAllister joined the meeting at 2.43pm

The Chairperson thanked Mr Armstrong for attending.

The briefing session was reported by Hansard.

2. Committee Inquiry: Access to Palliative Care Services – Department of Health, and Palliative Care in Partnership (PCiP) Programme

The following officials joined the meeting at 3.58pm:

- Michael O'Neill, Interim Director of Quality, Safety & Improvement, DoH;
- Sally Convery, Palliative & End of Life Care Nurse Consultant, Public Health Agency (PHA); and

- Diane Walker, Macmillan Palliative Care Transformational Lead for Northern Ireland, Palliative Care in Partnership Programme Manager, Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG), DoH.

The officials briefed the Committee on access to palliative care services.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairperson thanked the officials for attending.

The briefing session was reported by Hansard.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to receive a written briefing from the Department providing further information on Advanced Care Planning as a priority in the current Winter Preparedness Planning.

[Extract]