

AD HOC JOINT COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE MENTAL CAPACITY BILL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Monday, 12 October 2015
Room 30, Parliament Buildings**

Present: Mr Alastair Ross MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Patsy McGlone MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mrs Pam Cameron MLA
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mr Paul Frew MLA
Mr Seán Lynch MLA
Mr Raymond McCartney MLA
Ms Rosie McCorley MLA
Mr Neil Somerville MLA

In Attendance: Dr Kathryn Aiken (Clerk)
Ms Elaine Farrell (Assistant Clerk)
Mrs Sharon (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Craig Mealey (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 12.02 pm in closed session.

The following Members were in attendance: Mr Easton, Mr Lynch, Mr McCartney, Mr Ross and Mr Somerville.

1. Committee deliberations on Part 2, 3 and 4 of the Bill

The Committee discussed the evidence received to date on Part 2 of the Bill (clauses 35-65) and Part 3 and 4 and agreed to write to the Department on a number of issues.

12.03 p.m. Mr McGlone joined the meeting.

12.04 p.m. Ms McCorley joined the meeting.

12.06 p.m. Mr Frew joined the meeting.

12.13 p.m. Mrs Cameron joined the meeting.

12.17 p.m. Mr McCartney left the meeting.

2. Follow up on Part 1 of the Bill

Noted: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding the delay to the response to Part 1 of the Bill due to no ministerial clearance.

The meeting moved into open session at 12.20 p.m.

3. Apologies

None.

4. Chairperson's Business

None.

5. Draft Minutes of the meeting on Monday 5 October 2015

The minutes of the Committee meeting on Monday 5 October 2015 were agreed.

6. Forward Work Programme

Noted: The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

7. Background papers

Noted: The Committee noted the background papers in respect of the Mental Capacity Bill.

8. Evidence session on Parts 9 & 10 of the Mental Capacity Bill

The following witnesses joined the meeting at 12.22 p.m. to speak on Parts 9 & 10 of the Bill. This was followed by a question and answer session.

Mirjam Bader, MindWise
Dr Adrian East, Royal College of Psychiatrists
Valerie McConnell, Public Health Agency
Eamonn McNally, Children's Law Centre
Heather Palmer, PSNI
Natalie Whelehan, NICCY

1.13 p.m. Mrs Dobson joined the meeting.

1.20 p.m. Ms McCorley left the meeting.

1.32 p.m. Mr Easton left the meeting.

1.36 p.m. Mrs Dobson left the meeting.

1.42 Ms McCorley rejoined the meeting.

The following Departmental officials joined the meeting at 1.48 p.m. and participated in a question and answer session.

Clare Irvine, Department of Justice
Laurene McAlpine, Department of Justice

Karen Pearson, Department of Justice

Agreed: the Committee agreed to write to the Department on a number of issues regarding Part 9 and 10 of the Mental Capacity Bill.

9. Any Other Business

None.

10. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Monday, 19 October 2015 at 12pm in Room 30, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 2.22 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____