



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

# Committee for Health

## Minutes of Proceedings

**8 May 2025**

**Meeting Location:** NIFRS Learning and Development College, Cookstown

**Present:** Philip McGuigan MLA (Chairperson)  
Danny Donnelly MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Órlaithí Flynn MLA  
Colin McGrath MLA  
Alan Robinson MLA

**Apologies:** Alan Chambers MLA  
Linda Dillon MLA  
Diane Dodds MLA  
Nuala McAllister MLA

**In Attendance:** Keith McBride, Clerk  
Oliver Bellew, Assistant Clerk  
Angela McParland, Assistant Clerk

Jonathan Lamont, Clerical Supervisor

The meeting commenced at 2.27pm in public session.

**1. Apologies**

As above.

**2. Chairperson's Business**

None.

**3. Matters Arising**

None.

**4. General Overview - Oral Briefing by NI Fire and Rescue Service**

The Chairperson thanked the staff of the NI Fire and Rescue Service for hosting the meeting and for providing an excellent tour of the learning and development facility.

The Chairperson also expressed the gratitude of the Committee to the staff of the NIFRS for their selfless dedication in dealing with the recent spate of gorse fires.

The following representatives joined the meeting at 2.29pm:

- Aidan Jennings - Chief Fire and Rescue Officer, NIFRS;
- Paul Harper - Deputy Chief Fire and Rescue Officer, NIFRS; and,
- Paula White - Director of Finance and Support Services, NIFRS.

The Chairperson welcomed the representatives and invited them to brief the Committee.

The representatives provided a general overview of the work of the NIFRS.

Órlaithí Flynn joined the meeting at 2.39pm.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their briefing.

## **5. Draft Minutes**

The Committee agreed the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2025.

## **6. General Overview - Oral Briefing by NI Ambulance Service**

The Chairperson thanked the staff of the NI Ambulance Service for the outstanding work it does in protecting the community.

The following representatives joined the meeting at 4.02pm:

- Lynn Charlton – Director of Safety, Quality and Improvement, NI Ambulance Service; and,
- Neil Sinclair – Chief Paramedic Officer and Interim Director of Operations, NI Ambulance Service.

The Chairperson welcomed the representatives and invited them to brief the Committee.

The representatives provided a general overview of the work of the NIAS.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

Alan Robinson left the meeting at 4.32pm.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their briefing.

## **7. Any Other Business**

None.

**8. Date, Time and Place of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled to take place at 2pm on Thursday 15 May 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 4.40pm.

**Philip McGuigan MLA**

**Chairperson, Committee for Health**

**15 May 2025**