

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday 22 September 2016
Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings

Present: Ms Paula Bradley MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Gary Middleton MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Ms Paula Bradshaw MLA
Mr Robbie Butler MLA
Mr Gerry Carroll MLA
Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA
Mr Mark H Durkan MLA
Mr Ian Milne MLA
Ms Catherine Seeley MLA

Apologies: Mr Pat Sheehan MLA

In Attendance: Ms Éilis Haughey (Clerk)
Ms Roisin Donnelly (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Deirdre Farry (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Jonathan Lamont (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Stephanie Wilson (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 10:40am in public session.

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Draft minutes of the meeting on 15 September 2016

The minutes of the Committee meeting on 15 September 2016 were agreed.

3. Chairperson's Business

There was no Chairperson's business.

4. Overview briefing by the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority

The Committee heard evidence from:

Mrs Olive Macleod Chief Executive, RQIA

Mrs Elaine Connolly	Head of Programme, Regulation Directorate, RQIA
Ms Theresa Nixon	Director of Mental Health and Learning Disability, RQIA
Dr David Stewart	Medical Director, RQIA

10:44am Mr Gary Middleton joined the meeting.

A question and answer session ensued.

The officials agreed to provide the Committee with further information relating to an ongoing RQIA Review of Renal Services.

11:28am Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson left the meeting.

The briefing was recorded by Hansard.

The Chair thanked the witnesses for attending.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6. Correspondence

- i. The Committee considered a RaISe research paper providing an update on developments in Northern Ireland following the EU referendum.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to request an informal briefing from RaISe on this matter.

- ii. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for Finance relating to the timescale for the scrutiny of the forthcoming Budget and requesting information on departmental restructured baselines.

The Chairperson advised that this information should be contained in the expected departmental response to the Committee's previous correspondence seeking an update on the budget.

- iii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Executive Office providing a copy of the Executive Office's analysis of the consultation on the Draft Programme for Government Framework and a report from Inspiring Impact NI entitled 'Embracing Change: Public Sector Readiness for outcome-based funding.'
- iv. The Committee noted correspondence from the Speaker advising that he has written to the Minister of Health to inform her that a public petition regarding 'Access to Cancer Drugs' was laid in the Assembly on 19 September 2016 by Ms Paula Bradshaw MLA.

7. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

8. Any Other Business

- i. The Chairperson reminded Members that they had agreed to participate in publicity photographs for the Macmillan Big Coffee Morning event directly after the meeting.
- ii. The Chairperson advised that she had been approached by a number of individuals and groups with concerns regarding the implementation of the Autism Act 2011.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to request an oral briefing from departmental officials on this matter.

- iii. The implementation of the pay award for health and social care staff announced by the Health Minister was discussed.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to seek clarification from the Department of Health in relation to this matter.

9. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be on Thursday 29 September 2016, at 10.30 am in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12.03pm

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____