

## **COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH**

### **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Thursday 27 October 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  
Mr Mark H Durkan MLA  
Mr Ian Milne MLA  
Ms Catherine Seeley MLA  
Mr Pat Sheehan MLA

**Apologies:** Ms Joanne Dobson 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 9.40 am in public session.*

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were noted, as detailed above.

#### **2. Chairperson's Business**

There was no Chairperson's business.

#### **3. Draft minutes of the meeting on 20 October 2016**

- i. Further to resolution of a matter queried at the previous meeting, the minutes of the Committee meeting on 13 October 2016 were agreed, as drafted.
- ii. The minutes of the Committee meeting on 20 October 2016 were agreed.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

- i. The Committee noted that a list of outstanding responses to Committee correspondence had been forwarded to the Department of Health for an update on progress.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask that all outstanding responses be provided as soon as possible.

- ii. The Committee noted a response from the Director of Facilities to the Committee's enquiry about temperature control in the Senate Chamber during meetings.

*9.42 am Mr Trevor Clarke joined the meeting.*

#### **5. Briefing from the Minister of Health on the Reconfiguration of Health and Social Care**

The Committee heard evidence from:

Ms Michelle O'Neill	Minister for Health
Mr Richard Pengelly	Permanent Secretary Department of Health

*10.00 am Mr Pat Sheehan joined the meeting*

The Minister agreed to provide the Committee with further information regarding care pathways for rare diseases and stated that she would attend the Committee again to brief members on the waiting list strategy, due for publication in January, and on the detail of the transformation fund, once agreed.

A question and answer session ensued.

The briefing was recorded by Hansard.

The Chair thanked the Minister and Permanent Secretary for attending.

#### **6. Briefing on the Report of the Expert Panel on the Reconfiguration of Health and Social Care**

The Committee heard evidence from:

Professor Rafael Bengoa	Chairperson	Expert Panel on the Reconfiguration of Health and Social Care
Dr. Alan Stout	Member	Expert Panel on the Reconfiguration of Health and Social care

A question and answer session ensued.

The briefing was recorded by Hansard.

The Chair thanked the witnesses for attending.

*12.05 pm Mr Pat Sheehan left the meeting*

#### **7. Draft SR The Food Hygiene Rating (Fee and Fixed Penalty Amount) Order (NI) 2016**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered Draft SR The Food Hygiene Rating (Fee and Fixed Penalty Amount) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and had no objection to the Rule.

#### **8. SR 2016/365 The Remuneration of the Chairman of the Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016**

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2016/335 The Remuneration of the Chairman of the Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 and had no objection to the Rule.

#### **9. Correspondence**

- i. The Committee considered an invitation from RaISe to the Chairperson to make the opening remarks at an upcoming seminar in the Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series, 'Abortion Policy and Law: Key Considerations', on 16 November 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that it was content for the Chairperson to make the opening remarks at the seminar.

- ii. The Committee considered a request from Addiction NI, to sponsor the second annual meeting of the Drink Wise, Age Well High Level Impact Advisory Group on in the Long Gallery on 1 December 2016.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that it would sponsor the event at which the Deputy Chairperson would speak on behalf of the Committee.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that Members would reply directly to the organisers if able to attend the event.

- iii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People regarding the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) (Independent Guardian) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.

- iv. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for the Executive Office seeking information on the Committee's plans for engagement with stakeholders on the Draft Programme for Government and departmental action plans.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Committee for the Executive Office, advising it of the Committee's upcoming stakeholder event on 10 November 2016.

- v. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for the Executive Office in relation to the ‘Together: Building a United Community’ strategy and good relations issues falling to the Department of Health.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed that the Clerk would explore plans to develop a consistent approach on this matter across Committees.

- vi. The Committee considered a request from Shared Lives Plus to brief the Committee on Shared Lives schemes for older people.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to invite Shared Lives Plus to a future stakeholder event.

- vii. The Committee noted a copy of correspondence from the Committee for Infrastructure to the Department of Health regarding funding for rural transport initiatives.

- viii. The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Justice regarding its consideration of the Prisoner Ombudsman’s Investigation Report into Serious Self-Harm Incidents in Maghaberry Prison.

- ix. The Committee considered a RaISe briefing paper on the Draft Budget, outlining potential issues for consideration by the statutory committees as part of the budget scrutiny process.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to write to the Department for its response to the relevant issues raised in the research paper.

## **10. Forward Work Programme**

- i. The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.
- ii. The Committee noted a memo regarding the Committee’s upcoming stakeholder event on 10 November 2016.

## **11. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **12. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting.**

The next Committee meeting will be on Thursday 17 November 2016, at 10.30 am in the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology at Queen’s University of Belfast.

*The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12.15 pm*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Chairperson*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_