

COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday 30 June 2016

Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings

Present: Ms Paula Bradley MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Gary Middleton MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Ms Paula Bradshaw MLA
Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson MLA
Mr Mark H Durkan MLA
Mr Daithí McKay MLA
Ms Catherine Seeley MLA
Mr Pat Sheehan MLA

Apologies: Mr Robbie Butler MLA
Mr Gerry Carroll 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 Antoinette Bowen (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 10.30 am in public session.

1. Apologies

Apologies were noted, as detailed above.

2. Draft minutes of the meeting on 23 June 2016

The minutes of the Committee meeting on 23 June 2016 were agreed.

3. Chairperson's Business

The Committee considered arrangements for dealing with Freedom of Information requests over the summer recess period.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to delegate authority to the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson to submit views on the releasing or withholding of information

in any non-routine or contentious FoI requests received during the recess period.

4. Overview briefing on health and social care by RaISe.

The Committee heard evidence from:

Dr. Janice Thompson Research Officer, RaISe

A question and answer session ensued.

10.52 am Mr Trevor Clarke joined the meeting.

The Chair thanked the witness for attending.

5. Overview briefing by the Public Health Agency

The Committee heard evidence from:

Dr. Eddie Rooney Chief Executive, Public Health Agency

A question and answer session ensued.

Ms Paula Bradshaw declared an interest as having worked for an organisation in receipt of PHA funding in the last year.

The Chair thanked the witness for attending.

11.43 am Mr Trevor Clarke left the meeting.

The Chief Executive agreed to provide the Committee with further information in relation to issues discussed during the meeting.

6. Overview briefing by the Health and Social Care Board

The Committee heard evidence from:

Ms Valerie Watts Chief Executive, Health and Social Care Board

A question and answer session ensued.

Ms Paula Bradshaw declared an interest as former member of the Belfast Local Commissioning Group.

The Chair thanked the witness for attending.

The Chief Executive agreed to provide the Committee with further information in relation to issues discussed during the meeting.

7. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

8. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

9. Correspondence

- i. The Committee considered correspondence from Mr David Simpson MP regarding the case of an individual and the Southern Health and Social Care Trust's disciplinary processes.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to Mr Simpson advising him to contact the individual's local MLAs.

- ii. The Committee noted the annual report of Tackling Awareness of Mental Health Issues (TAMHI).
- iii. The Committee noted a request from the Chair of the BMA Northern Ireland to brief the Committee on its report "General Practice in Crisis – a report on primary care in Northern Ireland".
- iv. The Committee noted a copy of the Department's briefing paper on its structures and areas of responsibilities, as requested by the Committee at the meeting on 9 June 2016.
- v. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for the Executive Office regarding an outline timetable for the draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-21 consultation.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to enquire about the Committee's opportunity to input to the development of these documents.

- vi. The Committee considered correspondence from the Committee for Finance regarding the Budget timescale process.

Agreed: In order to inform its consideration of the Programme for Government and Budget 2017 -2020, the Committee agreed to write to the Department for further information on the Department's anticipated budgetary requirements.

- vii. The Committee noted the Investing Activity Report for June 2016.
- viii. The Committee noted a request from the Royal College of General Practitioners to brief the Committee on issues facing general practice in Northern Ireland.

- ix. The Committee considered correspondence from Dr. Carole Cairns regarding the draft strategies on paediatric community and hospital based care and paediatric palliative end of life care.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the correspondence to the Department, seeking an update on progress on the implementation plans for these strategies.

- x. The Committee considered a request from Autism NI and the National Autistic Society NI to brief the Committee on the Broken Promises report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite both organisations to a stakeholder event.

10. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be on Thursday 15 September 2016, at 10.30 am in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 13.04 pm

Signed: _____

Chairperson

Date: _____