

Health & Social Services Committee

Minutes (HSS 08-06(mins))

Meeting date: Thursday 11 May 2006

Meeting time: 9.30 am to 12.15 pm

Meeting venue: Committee Room 2, Senedd, National Assembly for Wales

Assembly Members in Attendance

Assembly Member	Constituency
Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Chair)	Carmarthen East & Dinefwr
Brian Gibbons (Minister)	Aberavon
John Griffiths	Newport East
Helen Mary Jones	Mid & West Wales
Jonathan Morgan	South Wales Central
Lynne Neagle	Torfaen
Jenny Randerson	Cardiff Central

Officials in Attendance

Name	Job title
Ann Lloyd	Head Department for Health and Social Services
Dr Tony Jewell	Chief Medical Officer
Mike Burns	Department for Health and Social Services
Andrew Powell Chandler	Department for Health and Social Services
Phil Chick	Department for Health and Social Services

Keith Ingham	Department for Health and Social Services
Richard Tebboth	Social Services Inspectorate for Wales

In Attendance

Name	Job title
Phil Morgan	Food Standards Agency
Sarah Jayne Rowles	Food Standards Agency

Assembly Parliamentary Service

Name	Job title
Jane Westlake	Committee Clerk
Catherine Lewis	Deputy Committee Clerk

Item 1: Apologies and Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

- 1.1 An apology was received from Karen Sinclair.
- 1.2 There were no declarations of interest.
- 1.3 A verbatim record of the meeting will be available.
- 1.4 The Chair welcomed, Dr Tony Jewell, Chief Medical Officer.

Item 2: Minister's Report

HSS(2)-08-06(p1)

- 2.1 The Committee considered the Minister's report.
- 2.2 The Minister responded to questions from Members.

Action

Section 7 - The Minister would keep the Committee informed of the timescale for further evaluation of Disease Modifying Therapies for Multiple Sclerosis.

The Minister would provide Committee Members information on the number of dentists who have not signed up to the new dental contract; their geographical location; how many patients are effected by dentists not signing up; and how many of those not signed up were involved in the PDS pilot.

Item 3: Schedule of Secondary legislation

HSS(2)-08-06(p2a) & HSS(2)-08-06(p2b)

3.1 Members agreed that the Directions to NHS Trusts and Powys LHB (HSS-20-(06)) be scrutinised in detail. Val Lloyd AM would be invited to attend that meeting.

Action

The Directions to NHS Trusts and Powys LHB to be scheduled for detailed scrutiny. Val Lloyd to be invited to attend that meeting. Business Committee will be notified.

Item 4: Food Standards Agency Signposting Scheme

HSS(2)-08-06(p3)

4.1 Phil Morgan introduced the Food Standards Agency's paper, and provided background information on the scheme.

4.2 Members questioned officials from the Food Standards Agency on their paper and the signposting scheme.

Item 5: EU Green Paper on Mental Health

HSS(2)-08-06(p5);

5.1 The Committee discussed the three questions posed in the consultation document.

Action

A draft report on the Committee's discussion will be circulated to members before it is sent to the Commission and copied to the MEPs representing Wales.

Item 6: Secondary Legislation

The Local Safeguarding Children's Boards (Wales) Regulations

HSS(2)-08-06(p5) & HSS(2)-08-06(p6)

6.1 The Minister responded to the points of clarification raised by Members.

6.2 The Minister would provide a note setting out the situation should board members not comply with the recommendation.

Action

Minister to provide a note setting out the situation should board members not comply with the recommendation.

A report of the discussion will be tabled and copied to the Chair of the Business Committee and the Minister.

Item 7: The Committee's annual report under SO 9.9 for 2005 to 2006

HSS(2)-08-06(p7)

7.1 The Committee approved the annual report.

Action

The annual report to be laid formally.

Item 8: The Committee's draft Strategic Programme for 2006 – 2007

HSS(2)-08-06(p8)

8.1 The Committee agreed to amend the terminology used in the priorities section. The revised wording would be 'Preventative measures and services for the mentally ill'.

8.2 The Committee agreed that the programme should also include reference to the National Assembly for Wales' statutory duties of promoting equality and sustainability.

Action

The programme to be amended and circulated to other Committees and the Minister.

Papers to Note

Update on the report of the Chief Inspector of Social Services – Information on young people with learning difficulties who have been given ASBOs

HSS(2)-08-06(p9)

Correction to paper HSS(2)-06-06(p2) – Cancer Services

HSS(2)-08-06(p10)

Home Births

HSS(2)-08-06(p11)

Final report on Health Professions Wales

HSS(2)-08-06(p12)

Cancer Networks in Wales

HSS(2)-08-06(p13)

Minutes of the meetings on 5 April 2006

HSS(2)-07-06-min and HSSSSC(2)-01-06

Committee Service

May 2006