

Health & Social Services Committee

Minutes (HSS(2)-11-06)

Meeting date: Wednesday 28 June 2006

Meeting time: 9.30 am to 12.30 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
Karen Sinclair	Clwyd South

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
Helen Field	Department for Health and Social Services

In Attendance

Name	Organisation
Dr Malcolm Adams	Director, Velindre Cancer Centre
Val Lloyd AM	
Gwenda Thomas AM	

In Attendance via video link

Name	Organisation
Kevan Blomeley	St David's Hospice
Alun Davies	St David's Hospice
Gladys Harrison	St David's Hospice
Hugh Leask	St David's Hospice

Assembly Parliamentary Service

Name	Job title
Peter Jones	Counsel to the Assembly Parliamentary Service
Catherine Lewis	Deputy Committee Clerk
Kathryn Potter	Members Research Service
Jane Westlake	Committee Clerk

Item 1: Apologies and Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

1.1 There were no apologies or substitutions.

1.2 There were no declarations of interest.

1.3 A verbatim record of the meeting will be available.

Item 2: Keeping us Safe – the report of the review on safeguarding vulnerable children

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2.1 The Chair welcomed Gwenda Thomas AM, who attended the meeting in her capacity as Chair of the review group.

2.2 Gwenda Thomas introduced her report, and responded to questions from Committee members.

Item 3: Committee's review of Cancer Services

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3.1 The Chair welcomed Dr Malcolm Adams, Medical Director at Velindre Cancer Centre.

3.2 Dr Adams responded to the questions posed in the Committee's consultation document.

3.3 The Committee approved the Expert Reference Group's terms of reference.

3.2 The Chair welcomed representatives from the St David's Hospice, Llandudno. The representatives provided details on the work of the hospice, and responded to questions from Committee members.

Item 4: Inquiry into the Provision of Ambulance Services in Wales

4.1 The Committee agreed to recommend the following terms of reference for the Inquiry:

a) to look at the effectiveness of performance standards, structure, staffing issues, financial and resource pressures together with any other related matters; and

b) to consider the implications for the future and make recommendations accordingly.

4.2 The Committee agreed to recommend to the panel that the Auditor General for Wales undertake the Inquiry.

Item 5: Secondary legislation – Directions to NHS Trusts and Powys Local Health Board

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5.1 The Chair Welcomed Val Lloyd AM to the Committee.

5.2 The regulations were scrutinised in accordance with the Committee's agreed protocol for scrutinising legislation, whereby members notify in advance any queries they have or amendments they wish to make. Two amendments had been proposed.

Amendment 1 - proposed by Helen Mary Jones AM

In section 2(e) insert after 'available':

"in Welsh and English"

The following Members voted for:

Helen Mary Jones

Jenny Randerson

The following Members voted against:

Brian Gibbons

John Griffiths

Jonathan Morgan

Lynne Neagle

Karen Sinclair

The following Member abstained:

Rhodri Glyn Thomas

5.3 Amendment 1 was defeated.

Amendment 2 - proposed by Jenny Randerson AM

In paragraph 2 and in Paragraph 3 insert in each case a new sub paragraph (f) to read:

"to take steps to promote improvements in cleaning, hygiene and infection management and to increase awareness of the impact of cleaning, hygiene and infection management on infection rates".

5.4 The Minister agreed with the principle of the amendment, but said that an appropriate form of words would be needed. The amendment was withdrawn on the understanding that the spirit of the amendment would be reflected in the drafting.

Action

A report on the Committee's conclusions would be submitted to Business Committee.

Papers to Note

Minutes of the meeting on 15 June 2006

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Committee Service

June 2006