

WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL

Minutes of One Hundred and Twenty-seventh meeting of the
Western Health and Social Services Council
held in the Conference Room, Derry City Council Offices,
Strand Road, Derry
on Thursday 4 March 2004
at 2.00PM

Present:	Mr R Rogan, Chairman Mrs V Brown Miss M Burke Mr J Campbell Mr E Friel Mr P Gilgunn Mr J Kerr	Mr I Maguire Mr P McGowan Mr R McKelvey Mr V McKelvey Mr W Page Mrs H Quigley Mr D Sutherland
Apologies:	Mr H Andrews Mr M Carten Mrs M Devlin Mrs M Hamilton	Mr B McAleer Mrs F Robson Ms M Trimble
In Attendance:	Ms M Reilly Mrs L Preston	Mrs K Loughran

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C01/04 Chairman's Business:

Mr Rogan welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said there was a very lengthy and important agenda to get through.

The Chairman said that at last months meeting there had been a presentation from the NIAS Trust and because the issues of ambulance service and provision has caused so much concern he felt it was important to have allowed additional time for the presentation and members' questions.

C02/04 Work Programme 2004-2005 - Planning of Working Groups:

Ms Reilly explained that she was planning to set up Working Groups based on the issues the Council would be looking at in the Work Programme and to get nominations for these.

The Chief Officer gave a brief overview of the various Groups and Members indicated their interest in sitting on these:

<u>Elderly</u>	<u>Children(Autism)</u>	<u>OT Services</u>	<u>Waiting Lists</u>
M Hamilton	H Quigley	I Maguire	J Kerr
M Burke	D Sutherland	V McKelvey	V McKelvey
V Brown	E Friel	M Burke	D Sutherland
F Robson	F Robson		F Robson
<u>Complaints</u>	<u>Mental Health</u>	<u>Disability (Respite Care)</u>	
P McGowan	P McGowan	J Campbell	
V Brown	R McKelvey	R McKelvey	
V McKelvey	B Page	R Rogan	
D Sutherland		M Carten	
F Robson			
M Hamilton			

C03/04 **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 5 February 2004 were adopted on the proposal of Mr Paddy McGowan and seconded by Mr Reuben McKelvey.

C04/04 **Matters Arising from Minutes:**

Response to Action Points AP: a/02/04 – m/02/04:

Action AP: a/02/04: The State Pathology Services Document.

Agenda Item.

Action AP: b/02/04: Invitation to WHSSB Officer to provide information on professional contracts.

- Chief Officer has arranged a meeting with Dr McConnell to discuss professional contracts on 8 March 2004.
- Dr McConnell to be invited to Council meeting to discuss:
 - ~ New Consultant Contract
 - ~ Use of NHS facilities for private work e.g. Theatres/Staff/Consulting etc.

- ~ Consultants waiting lists
- ~ Information to GPs re Consultants waiting lists.

Action AP: c/02/04: Altnagelvin Hospitals Trust Communications.

The Western Health and Social Services Council has changed the date of their meeting to allow attendance at Altnagelvin Hospitals Trust Board meeting on the first Thursday of each month.

The Chief Officer will seek a meeting with the Chief Executive to discuss issues of communication and will propose a bi-monthly meeting with the Chief Executive of the Trust to discuss Issues which include the use of Press Releases as means of informing the Council on particular topics on the grounds that these are not timely for the Council to respond to if necessary, nor have they enough background or detail.

Action AP: d/02/04: Review of Public Administration Document - Organisation Charts and Service to the Citizen Maps.

A copy has been sent to all Members.

Action AP: e/02/04: Request to Trusts in WHSSB area as to what the net difference is in employing full time-staff and agency staff.

The Chief Officer will request information on the cost per year of employing full-time staff v agency staff e.g. Nurse by grade, Locum Doctors/Consultants and other professionals.

Action AP: f/02/04: Request for Presentation to the Council on Psychology Services.

A request will be made to the Lead Psychologist from Sperrin Lakeland Trust and Foyle Trust to attend a future meeting.

Action AP: g/02/04: Response to Review of Public Administration.

The Response to the Review of Public Administration has been submitted and a copy was sent to all Members. Agenda Item.

Action AP: h/02/04: Strategic Review of work of the four HSS Councils.

Agenda Item.

Action AP: i/02/04: Change of date for future Council meetings.

All Members were contacted and had agreed that future Council meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month (with one or two exceptions). The change will begin with the April meeting.

Action AP: j/02/04: Conference/Residential.

Agenda Item.

Action AP: k/02/04: Post Mortem Examinations: Good Practice in Consent and Care of the Bereaved consultation document.

A sub group has been set up and a meeting arranged for Wednesday 10 March in the Everglades Hotel at 10.30am.

Action AP: l/02/04: Foyle Mental Health Review.

A sub group has been set up and a meeting arranged for Wednesday 10 March in the Everglades Hotel at 2.00pm.

Action AP: m/02/04: Website Design.

Agenda Item.

C05/04 State Pathologists Department - Analysis of The Way Forward Consultation:

Ms Reilly asked for comments on the document which had been circulated earlier to members. Mrs Quigley said she wanted to make the point that centralisation need not mean Belfast. There was some concern about the impact of State Pathology and whether hospitals had the capacity for such additional work.

Ms Reilly remarked that the outcome of the State Pathology Review had not been included in the current review of hospital pathology.

Action AP: a/03/04

Chief Officer to discuss these outcomes with Altnagelvin Area Hospital Trust to ascertain their view about the possible additional workload and if there were capacity and funding issues.

C06/04 Hospitals Waiting Lists - Regional Workshop:

Members were issued with a copy of slides Ms Reilly had obtained from a Regional Workshop she had attended. She said that it had been recognised that across Northern Ireland the inpatient waiting list was an area for serious concern and that it had to be tackled regionally.

The Chief Officer said that the Department were putting demands on the Trusts and Boards to deal with the problem and have set targets and action plans which they have to take forward. She said it should be noted that this is about inpatient waiting lists and not outpatient waiting lists.

Members agreed that the working group set up for waiting lists would look at Trust plans and track these throughout the year. They would also want to continue to raise the issue with the Western Health and Social Services Board.

Mr Victor McKelvey said there was a problem relating to recruitment and retention of Clinicians.

C07/04 **Website and Logo:**

The Chief Officer asked members for approval to use a new Council Logo which has been designed for the Western Health and Social Services Council Website.

Members were issued with a copy of the Logo and it was adopted on a proposal by Mr Reuben McKelvey and seconded by Mr Paddy McGowan.

C08/04 **June Residential:**

Ms Reilly said she had discussed the Western Health and Social Services Council decision to hold a residential with her 3 Chief Officer colleagues and it was suggested that it could become a Four Council Conference. The future of Health Councils was suggested as a topic for the Conference with the possibility of speakers from the former Association of Community Health Councils in England, Scotland and Wales to give their views on the changes that took place when Patient Forums were introduced.

Members agreed that the Residential arranged for June should be held as a Four Council Conference.

Action AP: b/03/04

Arrangements for the Conference to be taken forward in conjunction with the other 3 Councils.

C09/04 **RPA Submission:**

Ms Reilly drew Member's attention to the RPA Document in their pack and said the Response was submitted to the RPA team on 27/2/04. She said that submissions would be on the RPA Website www.rpani.org if any member wished to view them.

Mr Rogan thanked everyone who contributed to the process, those who were on the sub-group and those who commented on the draft which was sent out before submission. He said it was an enormous task and was an excellent piece of work.

Mr Ignatius Maguire complimented the Chief Officer on her response to the RPA document. Mr Paddy McGowan seconded the view and said it was a

comprehensive response. Mr Victor McKelvey said the submission had enhanced the role of the Council.

C10/04 **Update on four Health Councils internal review:**

Ms Reilly explained that the four Health and Social Services Councils had come together and acquired the services of a Consultant to review the current workload of the Councils.

This has been prompted by the increasing demand for Council services from the Department, Boards, Trusts, the public and media. Ms Reilly explained that without additional resources and enhanced capacity all of the Councils would have to agree a strategy for prioritising their work. Ms Reilly said that the four Health and Social Services Councils were currently undertaking a work analysis which should help to illustrate the areas of work which were most demanded and importantly from which of the Councils' stakeholders. She said the outcome of this work would be shared with all members in due course.

Ms Reilly further remarked that the added value of this exercise when coupled with the June Conference would in many ways help to prompt the debate on the future of Health and Social Services Councils.

Mr Victor McKelvey asked if the Council had a backlog of work. Ms Reilly said there was indeed a backlog some of which was due to the amount of time taken in for example doing the response to the RPA document. She said that when making responses to consultations they are often quite complex and have to be completed by a certain date which gives them priority over other work.

Mrs Helen Quigley said that the Department needs to be questioned on the cost of and the number of Reviews. She cited the NI Ambulance Service Review which she said was now out of date and still not implemented.

C11/04 **Change of Dates for future Council meetings:**

After the agreement to change the date of Council meetings to the fourth Thursday of the month members were given the new dates for future meetings beginning on 22 April 2004 with Ms Judi McGaffin Director of Dental Health at the Western Health and Social Services Board giving a presentation on the new Dental and Oral Health Strategy. Members will also have the opportunity to raise their concerns about the lack of NHS dentists.

Action AP: c/03/04

A copy of new dates with venues and speakers to be provided to members.

The Chief Officer reminded members that the meeting to be held on 27 May will include the Election of Officers.

C12/04 **Equality and Human Rights Business:**

Members had received an invite to the launch of the E-Learning site on Friday 12 March 2004. A number of members indicated an interest in attending.

C13/04 **Trusts' Business:**

1. ***Altnagelvin Hospitals Health and Social Service Trust:***

- Minutes of the Trust Board meeting held on 5 February 2004 and Agenda for a meeting to be held on 4 March 2004 were noted.
- The Chief Executive has invited Council members to a general briefing and overview. This is specifically to do with an update on the new building and the new services.
- A copy of 'Infusion' March 2004 the Trust's newsletter was acknowledged.

2. ***Foyle Health and Social Services Trust:***

- Minutes of a Trust Board meeting held on 27 February 2004 and an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 26 March 2004 were noted.

3. ***Sperrin Lakeland Health and Social Care Trust:***

- Minutes of a Trust Board meeting held on 22 January 2004 and an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 18 March 2004 were noted.
- A copy of the Trust's Core Brief February 2004 was noted.
- A copy of an Overview of the Trust's Victims Programme February 2004 was acknowledged.

4. ***Royal Hospitals Health and Social Services Trust:***

- Minutes of a Trust Board meeting held on 15 January 2004 and an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 4 March 2004 were noted.

5. ***Belfast City Hospital Trust:***

- Minutes of a Trust Board meeting held on 30 January 2004 and an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 26 March 2004 were noted.
- A copy of 'Cityview' March 2004 the Trust's newsletter was acknowledged.

6. *Green Park Healthcare Trust:*

- Minutes of Trust Board meetings held on 5 February 2004, an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 4 March 2004, Minutes of 4 March 2004 and an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 1 April 2004 were noted.
- A copy of 'Grassroots' February 2004 the Trust's newsletter was acknowledged.

C14/04 Members' Issues:

Mr Joe Campbell sits on the Sperrin Lakeland Disability PIP Group and was given to understand that no site had yet been identified for the proposed building of a unit for Learning Disabled Adults with Challenging Behaviour. Mr Reuben McKelvey had obtained a document from the Planning Office granting outline planning permission which had been granted in May 2003 for a site at Arvalee which he said was originally owned by the DOE and had been earmarked for a travellers halting site. Mr R McKelvey said he had contacted Mr Hugh Mills, Chief Executive, Sperrin Lakeland Trust who he said confirmed the site could be used for Learning Disabled Adults with Challenging Behaviour similar to that at Stradreagh/Muckamore.

Mr R McKelvey said that residents had met with Mr Hugh Mills and Mr Kieran Downey, Health and Disability Programme, Community Services Department, Sperrin Lakeland Trust and they were now happy about the situation.

Mr Campbell said this was totally contrary to what he was told at the last PIP meeting. He said he was not objecting to the site but the seemingly contrary information and he wondered therefore about his purpose on the PIP committee.

Action AP: d/03/04

The Chief Officer will arrange to meet Mr Downey to discuss the issue.

Mrs Helen Quigley said she had attended a public meeting on concerns about the lack of Speech and Language Therapists in the Derry area. She said that the parents of the children from Belmont School and Foyle had major concerns. She said there appeared to be a considerable difference between Board areas on the amount spent per child on Speech and Language Therapy.

Mrs Quigley said they were no further forward on from 15 years ago and it was very distressing for the parents. She said that Speech and Language Therapy was critical to a child's development.

Ms Reilly informed the meeting she had asked Mr Vincent Ryan, Director of Community Care (A), Sperrin Lakeland Trust for their position on:

- ~ the number of Speech and Language Therapists;
- ~ the number on waiting list;
- ~ resources generally to provide optimum service.

Action AP: e/03/04

Find out difference on spend between Boards.
Seek meeting with AHP lead at the Board for clarification.
Mrs Quigley to provide contact details of parent of a 15 year old.

Mrs Valerie Brown said she was concerned about the £11 million set aside out of the NI Health Budget for expected litigation. She said this removes a huge sum from direct service provision. She asked if professional bodies e.g. RCN etc. cover cost of litigation (personal liability).

Ms Reilly said she understood this was not an actual amount of money set aside but rather an estimate of what could be needed for all current litigation in Northern Ireland.

Action AP: f/03/04

The Chief Officer will discuss with a WHSS Board Officer and if necessary the Department.

Mr Billy Page stated that a constituent came to him very distressed saying that a nurse had suggested to her (when they were sharing a hospital lift) that she should enquire if the organs of her sister and her sister's children who had died in a fire had been retained at Altnagelvin Area Hospital.

Ms Reilly stated that the right to make such an enquiry was public knowledge and leaflets explaining this right had been distributed to all households.

Action AP: g/03/04

Mr Page to raise it on behalf of his constituent with Altnagelvin.
The Chief Officer and Mr Page will discuss further.

Mr Page also suggested that not all households had received the Human Organs Inquiry leaflet detailing how to go about finding out this information. Ms Reilly said she had dealt with the leaflet issue and it was agreed that Mr Page would give her

post code area details of non receipt of these leaflets. She said an Officer in the Department had indicated it might be possible to re-leaflet those specific areas.

Mr Victor McKelvey raised the issue of the recent delegations to the Health Minister of MLAs from the Omagh area. He was concerned that the Western Health and Social Services Council should receive a copy of any Press Releases from the Minister following these meetings.

Action AP: h/03/04

The Chief Officer will contact the Minister's Office and request they send the Council a copy of Press Releases.

Miss Mary Burke described an incident where a relief district nurse had attended an elderly patient in her home. She was concerned that the woman had not been informed prior to this or that the relief nurse had not offered any form of identity. She said this could have serious consequences in light of the current concerns about the safety of elderly people and bogus callers and she wondered if there was not a protocol in place for this.

Action AP: i/03/04

The Chief Officer will contact the Director of Community Nursing to find out what protocols are in place and how these are monitored.

The Chief Officer will raise the issue through the local older peoples inter-agency groups to get their view of such practices and protocols.

C15/04 Chief Officer's Report:

The Chief Officer said she had covered all the issues as agenda items she would want to have highlighted.

C16/04 Consultations:

The Chief Officer referred to the Post Mortem Examinations: Good Practice in Consent and Care of the Bereaved consultation document and said the sub group would look at the examples of the consent forms that parents and relatives would receive in the event of the need to retain organ or tissue samples. Members of the sub group had received a copy of the document.

Ms Reilly said that members had also received the document a Strategy for Pharmacy in the Community in their pack and she would recommend that it should be read.

C17/04 **Any Other Business:**

Mrs Helen Quigley referred to the recent case of the Coroner's report concerning the death of Lucy Crawford at the Erne Hospital.

She wished to highlight the role of the previous Chief Officer Mr Stanley Millar and his vigilance in identifying the similarity between this child's death and the death of another child Raychel Ferguson at Altnagelvin Area Hospital and the subsequent alerting of this to the Coroner Mr John Lecky. She asked that the Council acknowledge Mr Millar's role.

Members present wished to be associated with these sentiments.

Action AP: j/03/04

The Chief Officer will write to Mr Millar on behalf of members to convey their acknowledgement.

As a follow up to this issue the Chief Officer informed members that Mr Hugh Mills, Chief Executive, Sperrin Lakeland Trust had been in contact with her to offer a meeting with a group of members to discuss the Coroner's report and final decision.

Members were anxious that this meeting should include looking at:

How families are dealt with when making complaints and most importantly what lessons are learnt and how improvements are made.

They also wished to know what systems are in place for communicating such learning not only to their own staff but to other professionals outside their hospital.

Action AP: k/03/04

The Chief Officer will follow up the invitation and agree a suitable date for the meeting.

Mr Rogan informed the meeting that the role of Chairman of the Council had increased in terms of time and commitment and due to his family situation he felt he could not do justice to the role of Chairman and would be stepping down at the May meeting. He said he was considering at present if he would be able to remain as a member.

Ms Reilly thanked Mr Rogan and said that she could not have managed as new Chief Officer without the level of support he had given her.

Ms Reilly asked members to consider when nominating a new Chair they should be aware that there would be a considerable demand made on their time. This would include representing the Council at Board and Trust meetings, making comment to the media and reading and analysing a considerable amount of information.

Mrs Helen Quigley said it was regrettable but his reasons were understandable and acknowledged that Mr Rogan in his role as Chairman had done justice to the Western Health and Social Services Council and she hoped that he would remain as a member. All members agreed with these sentiments.

Meetings and Events attended by Members

Date: 5 February 2004
Meeting: Strule Erne Local Health and Social Care Group
Venue: Enterprise Centre, Trillick
Nominated: Mr Andrews

Date: 6 February 2004
Meeting: WHSSC Business Programme
Venue: Conference Room, Hilltop, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital
Nominated: Mr McGowan Mr V McKelvey Mr Sutherland

Date: 12 February 2004
Meeting: Foyle Trust Multi Disciplinary Research Committee
Venue: Waterside Hospital, Londonderry
Nominated: Mrs Devlin

Date: 12 February 2004
Meeting: Supporting Healthy Communities
Venue: Calcagh Centre, Londonderry
Nominated: Mr Rogan

Date: 13 February 2004
Meeting: Older People's Strategy
Venue: Enterprise Agency, Strabane
Nominated: Mrs Hamilton

Date: 13 February 2004
Meeting: Hotel Services Steering Group
Venue: Cedar Villa, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital
Nominated: Mr Sutherland

Date: 19 February 2004
Meeting: Sperrin Lakeland Clinical and Social Care Governance
Venue: Library Headquarters, Omagh
Nominated: Mr Campbell

Date: 19 February 2004
Meeting: WHSS Board – Vision Document (Sub Group)
Venue: WHSS Board Headquarters, Gransha Park, Londonderry
Nominated: Mr Campbell Mr Friel Mr V McKelvey Ms Robson

Date: 20 February 2004
Meeting: IFH Partnership
Venue: Enterprise Agency, Strabane
Nominated: Mrs Quigley

Date: 25 February 2004
Event: Altnagelvin Cancer Unit Away Day
Venue: Manor House Hotel, Killeadeas
Nominated: Mrs Devlin

Date: 4 March 2004
Meeting: NI Cancer Registry
Venue: Dunadry Hotel, Templepatrick
Nominated: Ms Robson

Meetings and Events attended by Chief Officer

Date: 5 February 2004
Meeting: Services Watch
Venue: WHSS Board Headquarters, Gransha Park, Londonderry

Date: 6 February 2004
Meeting: WHSSC Business Programme
Venue: Conference Room, Hilltop, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital

Date: 6 February 2004
Meeting: S/L Trust Victim's Programme (Sean Coll)
Venue: Conference Room, Hilltop, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital

Date: 9 February 2004
Meeting: Western Ambulance Liaison Group
Venue: Dawson House, Gransha Park, Londonderry

Date: 10 February 2004
Workshop: Department - CSCG
Venue: Park Avenue Hotel, Belfast

Date: 16 February 2004
Workshop: Department - Reducing Waiting Times
Venue: Hilton Hotel, Templepatrick

Date: 18 February 2004
Meeting: Public and Staff Engagement Group
Venue: WHSS Board Headquarters, Gransha Park, Londonderry

Date: 19 February 2004
Review: WHSS Board's Vision Statement
Venue: WHSS Board Headquarters, Gransha Park, Londonderry

Date: 20 February 2004
Meeting: IFH Partnership
Venue: Enterprise Agency, Strabane

Date: 23 February 2004
Meeting: Chief Officers (Simon Bridge)
Venue: Tidal Offices, Toome

Date: 25 February 2004
Meeting: Western Ambulance Liaison Group – Sub Group
Venue: Conference Room, Hilltop, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital

Date: 2 March 2004
Meeting: IFH (Seamus Mullen)
Venue: Conference Room, Hilltop, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital

Date: 3 March 2004
Meeting: Director of Community Services (A) S/L Trust
Venue: Conference Room, Hilltop, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital

C18/04 **Next Meeting:**

Date: 22 April 2004
Time: 2.00pm
Venue: Arc Healthy Living Centre
Irvinestown
Co Fermanagh

The meeting ended at 4.55pm