

WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL

**Minutes of One Hundred and Fifty-third meeting of the
Western Health and Social Services Council
held in Conference Room 2, Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh, Co Tyrone
on Thursday 1 March 2007
at 2.00pm**

Present:	Mr P McGowan (Chairperson)	
	Mrs V Brown	Councillor M McColgan
	Mr J Campbell	Mr M McIvor
	Councillor M Carten	Mr V McKelvey
	Councillor M Hamilton	Councillor B Page
	Mrs S Hogg	Ms F Robson
	Councillor R Hussey	Ms M Trimble
Apologies:	Councillor G Foley	Mr I Maguire
	Councillor R Lynch	Mr D Sutherland
In Attendance:	Ms M Reilly	Mrs K Loughran
	Mrs M Gormley	Miss S Murphy

1 Press journalist in attendance

C001/07 Chairman's Business:

Mr McGowan welcomed everyone to the 153rd meeting of the Western Health and Social Services Council.

He said the 153rd meeting had been planned for Thursday 1 February 2007 but when it became evident that a quorum would not be met it was decided to postpone the meeting until 1 March 2007. He said it was his understanding that a number of people were sick including himself and that a number of elected Councillors were going to have to leave early due to other commitments.

Mr McGowan said that it was very important for members to let staff know as soon as possible if they are unable to attend a meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. He thanked the members for their prompt response in confirming their intention to attend today's meeting.

Mr McGowan apologised to Mr Joe Campbell for the Council's failure to get a message to him that the February meeting was postponed. This he said was due to an administrative error.

C002/07 **Minutes of Previous Meeting – 7 December 2006:**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 December 2006 were adopted on the proposal of Mr Ross Hussey and seconded by Mr Joe Campbell.

C003/07 **Matters Arising from Previous Meeting – 7 December 2006:**

Members were provided with handouts of updates on previous Action Points.

Responses to Action Points a/12/06 – n/12/06:

Action Point a/12/06. Board responses to issues raised by WHSS Council.

Agenda Item 5.

Action Point b/12/06. Speech Therapy.

Agenda Item 7.

Action Point c/12/06. Meeting with Chair, WHSSB if required following meeting with the Chief Executive WHSSB.

Ms Reilly said following a satisfactory meeting with Professor Burke a meeting with Ms Karen Meehan, Chair, WHSSB was not required.

Action Point d/12/06. Monitoring of child and adolescent Mental Health Services in the West.

Ms Reilly said the WHSS Council will continue to monitor child and adolescent Mental Health Services in the West. She made members aware that children and adolescent services had been included in the Sperrin Lakeland Trust Mental Health Review and commended the Trust for this.

Action Point AP: e/12/06. Access to Out of Hours Mental Health Services.

Ms Reilly explained that the Foyle Trust Out of Hours pilot was still

running and the Trust hoped to extend the service to 24 hour cover from May 2007. Team Managers have been appointed for the Primary Care Liaison Team, the Rehab and Recovery Teams, Psychological Therapies Team and the Home Treatment Team. The Teams should be operational by May 2007 and additional staff are currently being recruited

Ms Reilly proposed that access to out of hours Mental Health Services be included on the agenda for the WHSS Council meeting in June 2007.

Action Point AP: a/03/07

Include Access to Out of Hours Mental Health Services on Agenda for WHSS Council meeting June 2007.

Action Point AP: f/12/06. Gransha Hospital Business Case.

The Business Case for the replacement of the admission clinics at Gransha has now been accepted by the Department. The new £10.4 million crisis facility will include 30 admission beds, an acute day care facility and home treatment team base. It will also provide accommodation for the Programme's management team and a Multi-disciplinary Education centre.

Ms Reilly drew members' attention to the rise in cost by a further £3 million to £10.4 million. This was due to a number of changes being made to the original plans, e.g. the size of rooms etc.

Mr McGowan said he remained concerned to ensure that the reduction in inpatient beds would allow for the appropriate level of re-investment in the proposed community services.

Ms Reilly said the WHSS Council would wish to monitor this issue closely. She said it was her understanding that the Department will review their position in terms of funding towards the end of the Project. The extra £3 million she said is currently not available.

Mr McGowan said not having the Acute element of the Strategy in place should not be used as an argument to stop or delay the implementation of the Community element of the plan.

He also said the WHSS Council needed to be clear that there is a difference between the crisis response part of the service, the acute service and the community service. He said the crisis intervention service should not be confused with the acute service.

Ms Reilly said that Foyle Trust and Sperrin Lakeland have both completed their Reviews. She said the WHSS Council would want to monitor the implementation of the recommendations to ensure there would not be a tension between the two Reviews with the merger of both Trusts into the new Western Trust.

Mr McGowan referred to the Bamford Review which has also been published. He said the WHSS Council would want to be reassured that both Foyle and Sperrin Lakeland's stated objectives are in line with those contained in the Bamford Review.

Action Point AP: b/03/07

WHSS Council to monitor the implementation of the Foyle and Sperrin Lakeland Trusts Mental Health Reviews.
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Action Point g/12/06. Consultation Document – Making Complaints about HPSS.

Agenda Item 6.

Action Point h/12/06. Accessing Emergency Maternity Services.

Dr McKinney confirmed with the Council that the Trust uses Ambulance and 999 protocols for emergency patients requiring maternity services to ensure they are not taken to Tyrone County Hospital. She said if a patient who was haemorrhaging arrived at Tyrone County Hospital (walk-in or own transport) then protocols would be followed to stabilise the patient and transfer her as quickly as possible to the nearest maternity unit.

Action Point i/12/06. Number of Caesarean sections carried out in the Erne Hospital.

Ms Reilly said there had been 133 Caesarean sections carried out in the Erne Hospital in 2005/2006 representing 10.8% of the total births (1230). She said this compares favourably with 21.5% in England and Wales.

Mr Ross Hussey queried how the figures for the Erne Hospital compared with other hospitals in Northern Ireland?

Ms Reilly said they compared very favourably as the Northern Ireland average was 23.9%.

Members were provided with a handout downloaded from the Royal

College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Website for further information.

Action Point j/12/06. Letter of condolence to Ms Mary Burke.

Letter has been sent to Ms Burke.

Action Point k/12/06. Ambulance Services issues.

Agenda Item 7.

Action Point l/12/06. (ENT) Services at Tyrone County Hospital.

Mr Raymond McCartney has assured WHSS Council that there are no plans at present to make any further changes to ENT services. He pointed out that the ENT service for children at Tyrone County Hospital became a day case service from January 2007.

Mr Hussey said that he had become aware that within Sperrin Lakeland Trust there were plans for children to be kept overnight in the Silverbirch Hotel prior to being admitted to the Tyrone County Hospital for day surgery.

Action Point AP: c/03/07

Ms Reilly asked Mr Hussey to provide her with further information so she could follow this up.
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Action Point m/12/06. Lack of notification to WHSSC of events held by WHSSB.

Ms Reilly said she had raised this issue at the meeting with the Chief Executive who gave an assurance that the WHSSB would notify the WHSS Council of future events.

Action Point n/12/06 Lack of publicity re Action Cancer 'Big Bus'.

Ms Reilly said the Action Cancer 'Big Bus' visits areas booked in advance by local groups and organisations.

The Table below shows a timetable, which is displayed on the Action Cancer website (www.actioncancer.org), showing when the service will visit each Board area for 2007 to 2010.

East- EHSSB	West-WHSSB	South-SHSSB	North-NHSSB
NOV 06	DEC 06	JAN 07	FEB 07
MAR 07	APR 07	MAY 07	JUN 07
JUL 07	AUG 07	SEP 07	NOV 07
DEC 07	JAN 08	FEB 08	MAR 08
APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JUL 08
AUG 08	SEP 08	NOV 08	DEC 08
JAN 09	FEB 09	MAR 09	APR 09
MAY 09	JUN 09	JUL 09	AUG 09
SEP 09	NOV 09	DEC 09	JAN 10

There is a charge for the service depending on which group makes the booking e.g. a community group could be charged approximately £595 per day and a District Council may be charged £995.

Action Cancer sends out advertising information to the group that made the booking e.g. flyers to be put up in their community group hall or area. Regarding advertising in local papers Action Cancer will discuss this directly with the group.

The service is by appointment and not a walk-in service for the public although a small number of appointments are reserved for members of the public who may call in if they see the Bus in their area.

Services provided on the Big Bus include digital breast screening, health promotion and men's health checks. A new support scheme called the Listening Ear Service and complementary therapies will be offered to cancer patients, their carers and families onboard the unit. The Bus is fully accessible for people with disabilities by means of a wheelchair lift.

Groups wishing to make a booking for the Big Bus can telephone Action Cancer on 028 9080 3344 or use the dedicated email address bigbus@actioncancer.org

C004/07 **Report of meeting with WHSSB Chief Executive:**

Board responses to issues raised by WHSSC:

Ms Reilly said she and Mrs Gormley had met with Professor Dominic Burke, Chief Executive WHSSB and Mr Michael Gormley, Head of Consumer Services WHSSB on 24th January 2007 to discuss a number of issues raised by WHSS Council members at previous meetings.

Ms Reilly said that Professor Burke wished to make it clear that there had been no attempt by the Board not to be transparent with the WHSS Council but accepted the concerns of the Council members in this regard.

Professor Burke assured the Chief Officer that the WHSS Council will automatically receive copies of any future Presentations made to District Councils or any other groups.

The Chief Executive, WHSS Board has agreed to attend 3-4 meetings of the WHSS Council in the next year where he may be able to give an immediate response to members' questions. Professor Burke said if a fuller response is required then this will be provided in writing.

Ms Reilly proposed that the Chief Executive of the new Western Health and Social Care Trust should also be invited to attend one of the meetings that the Chief Executive, WHSSB will be attending.

Action Point AP: d/03/07

Chief Officer to forward dates to Professor Burke for the 2007/2008 WHSS Council meetings.
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Action Point AP: e/03/07

Chief Officer to invite Chief Executive, WHSC Trust to attend a WHSS Council meeting along with Chief Executive, WHSSB.

Breast Cancer Services:

Ms Reilly said the WHSS Board had emphatically confirmed that they work to the two week target for urgent referrals for Breast Cancer services.

Ms Reilly said the WHSS Board had also confirmed they would be holding 'blitz' clinics to target the 511 women who are currently on the waiting list. She said these women will be seen by the end of March with five additional Friday clinics being held from 10/3/07 to 23/3/07. Two Surgeons and one Radiologist will be involved. Each surgeon will see 50 women on a day i.e. 25 at a morning clinic and 25 at an afternoon clinic.

Mr Hussey queried if they were taking into account people who had to travel long distances and arranging their appointments for later in the day rather than early mornings?

Ms Reilly said this issue had been addressed at a previous meeting by Dr Dermot Hughes. He had said they accepted that this was good practice and that they were working to this arrangement.

Mr Billy Page asked if the possible removal of the Pathology Services at Altnagelvin would mean longer waiting times for women?

Ms Reilly said this issue would be taken into consideration when making the WHSS Council response to the Future of Pathology Services in NI.

Mr Michael Carten raised an issue on the high rate of men presenting with prostate cancer. He felt that there would need to be a publicity campaign to get men to go to their GP to get early check-ups.

Ms Reilly said herself and Mr McGowan had discussed this issue with Dr Dermot Hughes at a meeting earlier in the day.

She said there are currently discussions ongoing with GPs on the issue. She said there will be two specialist GPs working within the WHSS Board area who will be trying to promote the importance of early detection of cancers.

Mr McGowan said there needs to be consideration given to accessing and providing services in different ways in order to maximise the number of people using the services.

Ms Reilly said that in England walk-in clinics had proved very effective and this may be something that could be considered in NI.

Mrs Sue Hogg said she felt that employers had a responsibility to promote the health and well-being of their employees and she felt more could be done in this area.

Mr Page said that education on people's well-being should begin at

school age so that young people can recognise early warning signs.

C005/07 **Update on Consultations:**

Consultation Document – Making Complaints about HPSS:

A Workshop was held on 25 January 2007 in order to formulate a response to the Consultation - Making Complaints about HPSS.

Ms Reilly thanked the WHSS Council members who had attended this Workshop.

Members were issued with a list of current consultations (14) with response dates from February to April. She said some of the consultations were particular to the WHSS Board area and required an individual response from the WHSS Council and some were regional and could be responded to jointly by the four Councils.

Ms Reilly pointed out that responding to these consultations would require a considerable amount of work on the part of staff and members.

Mr Hussey said he had a major concern particularly with the Department in relation to their Consultation documents. Regarding the consultation 'Improving Services for Major Trauma' he said in his opinion the Department had already made an announcement and then realised they had made a mistake. He said they then decided to put the document out for consultation but he felt the outcome was a foregone conclusion. Mr Hussey said the major trauma consultation affects everyone in Northern Ireland but in his opinion the decisions have already been made.

He also quoted the example of the Tyrone County Hospital where he said the views of the people of Omagh were ignored. The same thing he said could apply to any of these consultations.

Referring to Pathology Services Mr Hussey said the consultation appeared very suddenly and a lot of people were not aware about it until comments from doctors appeared in the local press.

Ms Reilly said that most consultations have a turn around of about three months.

Mr Hussey said if the services at Altnagelvin are downgraded this will also affect services at the Erne Hospital and the Tyrone County Hospital. He said it was his understanding that a Hospital must have Pathology services in order to qualify as a Level 3 Hospital; therefore this would have implications for the new hospital in the southwest.

Mr McGowan reiterated Mr Hussey's concerns about Pathology Services and said he would be concerned about how these proposals would fit in to Developing Better Services within the southwest.

Mr Hussey said there is also a question in relation to the Renal Units where both Tyrone County and Altnagelvin Hospitals would be affected by these proposals. He said it seems to him that at this minute and time there seems to be a Belfast based Health Service.

Mr Page said he also has major concerns about the future of Pathology Services and as a member of Derry City Council had already met with Dr Dermot Hughes, Lead Clinician, Cancer Services, Altnagelvin Area Hospital on the issue.

Mr Page said he was very concerned about the possibility of removal of Pathology services from Altnagelvin. He said they have new laboratories which cost £18 million and that they are the only assured and accredited laboratories outside Belfast.

He added that if this service is lost or downgraded then the Teaching Centre at Altnagelvin will be lost as well.

Mr Michael McIvor said that the Teaching Centre was very important for the North West area generally and should be retained.

Mr McIvor said the Altnagelvin laboratories have not yet been officially opened. He suggested questions should be asked about the planning and spending of public money for a service which they are now proposing to remove. He said the WHSS Council should liaise with their colleagues in the Northern area because they are experiencing the same difficulty in the Causeway Hospital.

Mr McIvor said he had absolutely no faith in consultations. He said he feels that decisions have already been made and Ministers are going to force them on the people.

Mr McIvor went on to say that there is so much that can be affected by the decision to remove the Pathology services from Altnagelvin. He said other services rely heavily on the need to have access to blood results quickly. He said this is not going to happen if samples are being sent to Belfast. He said he would have concerns about how samples would be transported to Belfast and how long it would take for results to be made available. He said there would be a higher risk of samples getting lost.

Mr Joe Campbell suggested that the Department was arrogant and lacked accountability. It seemed to him he said to be an ideal time for the elected members of the WHSS Council to voice their concerns to their respective party colleagues. He said there may be an Executive in Northern Ireland and the Department will have to be held accountable.

Mr Page said the areas that will be affected by the removal of Pathology services i.e. Omagh, Fermanagh, Limavady, Coleraine and Donegal were sending representatives from each of their District Councils to meet with the Minister.

Ms Reilly asked for nominations to attend a Workshop in order to formulate a response to the consultation on The Future of Pathology Services in Northern Ireland.

Ms Robson, Mr Hussey, Mr McIvor, Mr Page, Mrs Hamilton, Mr McGowan and Mr McKelvey agreed to attend.

It was agreed that a notice would be sent out to all members giving details of date and venue for the workshop.

Mr McIvor proposed that Dr Dermot Hughes be invited to the Workshop.

Action Point AP: f/03/07

Chief Officer to invite Dr Dermot Hughes to attend Workshop on The Future of Pathology Services in NI.
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Mrs Gormley drew members' attention to the details for the Workshop on the Carer's Strategy Consultation which was included in their meeting pack. She confirmed the Workshop would be held on 20 March 2007 in Hilltop.

Mrs Gormley said details had been sent to members in the past week about a Workshop arranged to formulate a response to the Day Opportunities Review Consultation. It will be held on 6 April 2007 in Hilltop. Mr Paul Cavanagh, WHSS Board, will make a presentation to the Council as part at the Workshop. She informed members who had already confirmed their attendance that a copy of the Consultation Document was in their meeting pack.

She reminded members to confirm their attendance at any of the

Workshops as soon as possible.

Ms Reilly asked members who were unable to attend the Workshops and who would like to respond to the Consultation Documents to forward their comments in writing to the WHSS Council for inclusion in the response.

C006/07 **Chief Officer's Report:**

Speech and Language Therapy:

Ms Reilly said she and Mrs Gormley had attended a very productive meeting with; a group of parents from Strabane Community Action for Children's Speech and Language; a local Head Teacher and senior officials from Foyle Health and Social Services Trust. The WHSS Council facilitated the meeting.

Ms Reilly said the Foyle Trust officials gave encouraging responses to a number of questions put forward by the parents and also detailed the objectives within their new 'Care Aims' initiative.

Ms Reilly said it was agreed to send a letter from the parents in the Action Group and the WHSS Council to the Minister for Health and Social Services requesting a meeting to discuss a number of issues. The issues concerned early access to Speech and Language Therapy, reduction in waiting times, the need for a robust system of monitoring of children waiting to be assessed for therapy and monitoring for the length of waiting time for appropriate intervention. The need for appropriate finance to be ring fenced so that the Trust can meet the needs of children through their service delivery improvement plans will also be discussed.

Ms Reilly said the Strabane Community Action for Children's Speech and Language Group had contacted her to say that they were encouraged by the meeting and that all the questions they had raised with Foyle Trust have now been answered.

Ms Reilly said WHSS Council will continue to monitor the waiting times for all children in the Trust area. She said the Care Aims initiative is also operating in the Sperrin Lakeland Trust.

Ms Reilly on behalf of WHSS Council thanked the Foyle Trust officials who attended the meeting for the way they responded and treated the parents.

Action Point AP: g/03/07

WHSS Council to continue to monitor Speech and Language therapy waiting lists.
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Ambulance Service issues:

Ms Reilly said she had attended the Local Ambulance Liaison Group meeting on 14 December 2006 and had raised the issues of: Voluntary car drivers; Ambulance staff at Northland Road having to vacate premises when the Fire Service are training; and the Ambulance proposed for the Fintona station.

Ms Reilly said she has been informed that the NI Ambulance Service (NIAS) are undertaking a Review of Voluntary car drivers.

She said the issue around the Ambulance staff at Northland Road had been dealt with by the Fire Service's Union and Staff Side Representatives. This had been dealt with prior to the meeting on 14 December 2006.

Ms Reilly said it was confirmed that the ambulance for the Fintona station was to be deployed from the Omagh station.

Mr Hussey said it was his understanding that the ambulance was to be placed in Fintona at a time when NIAS thought necessary according to their statistics. He said he had a major concern about this because since A & E had been removed from Omagh there was a necessity for an additional A & E ambulance to be in Omagh as well as an ambulance in Fintona.

Mr Hussey said there has been a suggestion that the ambulances in Fermanagh are not fit for purpose. He said that NIAS were denying this but he would have a major concern if this turned out to be the case. He said if these ambulances are ferrying people from Fermanagh to Omagh, from Omagh to L'Derry and from Omagh to Belfast they need to be fit for purpose.

Ms Reilly said she had had a look at the statistics that NIAS were using and she is satisfied that they will transfer the ambulance from Omagh to Fintona when there will be the greatest usage and need.

Mr Hussey queried whether when the NIAS were considering these figures had they taken into account the closure of A & E at the Tyrone County Hospital? He said he didn't think they had and he still believes there are not enough ambulances in Omagh to deal with the Omagh District Council area and he would be concerned that NIAS would think the Fintona ambulance was enough. He said he thought

that another ambulance should be brought into Omagh and he will continue to fight for one.

Mr Hussey pointed out that there had been 5 major car accidents in the Omagh area in the past week. He said it would take just one major accident to involve 2-3 vehicles and the complete ambulance service would be grid locked in the whole south-western area. He said ambulances would have to come from Enniskillen, possibly Craigavon and L'Derry and there would be a major crisis. He felt NIAS needed to be made aware of this and the fact an ambulance cannot transport patients to the Tyrone County Hospital because of the bypass protocols makes the situation worse.

Ms Frances Robson queried if the NIAS had carried out assessments regarding this issue?

Mr Hussey said he cannot understand when the A & E service was removed from Tyrone County Hospital ambulances were drafted in from the East of the Province. He said nothing should have been removed from the Tyrone County Hospital until there was a proper ambulance service in place. He said the necessity for Tyrone County Hospital and the need in the very large rural area and large County town had been underestimated. Mr Hussey said that unfortunately the day will come when there will be deaths and there won't be enough ambulances in the area. He said he was not satisfied with the answer from NIAS.

Ms Reilly proposed that NIAS be invited to the June 2007 WHSS Council meeting to speak directly to Members and give an overview of the service provision within the Omagh area.

Members agreed to invite NIAS to the June meeting. Ms Reilly asked members to contact the WHSS Council offices if they had any ambulance issues to add to the agenda for the June meeting.

Action Point AP: h/03/07

Chief Officer to invite NIAS to the WHSS Council June 2007 Council meeting.

Rural Medicine Workshop:

Ms Reilly thanked members who had attended and contributed to the Rural Medicine Workshop held on 10 January 2007.

Older People's Advocacy Steering Group:

Ms Reilly reported to members that the four HSS Councils and the Regulation, Quality and Improvement Authority (RQIA) were working together on a project to assess what the issues are around older people's advocacy, particularly older people living in residential and nursing homes and their access to independent advocacy services. She said she will share the outcome with members when the project is completed.

Meeting with Dr Bernie Stuart (PCC):

Ms Reilly said she wished to make members aware that the four HSS Councils were meeting with Dr Bernie Stuart, who is leading on the future planning for the new PCC, on Monday 12 March 2007. She said she will update members on the issues discussed at the meeting.

Personal and Public Involvement (Departmental Guidance) - (User Involvement Workshop):

Ms Reilly thanked members for their attendance at the User Involvement Workshop held on 21/11/06.

Waiting List Monitoring:

Ms Reilly said she had met with the Mr John Templeton, Chief Executive, Sperrin Lakeland Trust and had raised the continued concerns of the WHSS Council around OT waiting lists and how the Trust is managing the service.

New Western Health and Social Care Trust:

Ms Reilly reminded members that the new Western Health and Social Care Trust was coming into being on 1 April 2007. She said the Organisational Structures have been designed and circulated to all staff.

Ms Reilly said the WHSS Council proposes to hold a Liaison meeting with the new WHSC Trust on 8 May 2007. Confirmation of the date and venue will be sent to all members.

Meeting with Mrs Elaine Way/Dr Dermot Hughes/Mrs Margaret Kelly:

Ms Reilly said herself and Mr McGowan had met earlier in the day

with Mrs Elaine Way, Chief Executive, Western Health and Social Care Trust, Dr Dermot Hughes, Lead Clinician Cancer Services, Altnagelvin and Mrs Margaret Kelly, Western Health and Social Care Trust. The meeting had been arranged to discuss emergency surgical referrals. She said the WHSS Council had been advocating on behalf of an individual who had contacted the Council. The individual had required surgery for colon cancer and because Altnagelvin did not have the capacity to treat him urgently at the time he had to travel to Craigavon for surgery. In the course of supporting the individual the WHSS Council became aware that there were a number of other people in the same situation. Ms Reilly said she had been informed at the meeting of the imminent appointment of a second colo-rectal surgeon. She said Altnagelvin are also looking at different ways of managing their surgical lists.

Ms Reilly said in the course of the meeting they had also discussed the relationship between the WHSS Council and the new WHSC Trust. She said Mrs Way presented a very positive and energetic view of the way in which she is going to lead the new Trust. Mrs Way said importance and value would be placed on listening to the patients, service users and those who would represent and advocate for them.

Ms Reilly on behalf of the WHSS Council wished Mrs Way every success in her post as Chief Executive of the new WHSC Trust.

C007/07 **Arrangements for end of year 06/07 Business Meeting – April 2007:**

Ms Reilly proposed that the next WHSS Council meeting to be held on 5 April 2007 should take the form of a Business meeting. She said this would enable members to review the work of the past year and to decide on priorities for the incoming year.

C008/07 **Arrangements for Business Planning 07/08 Meeting – April 2007:**

This would be the second part of the Business meeting on 5 April 2007 and would entail planning and agreeing the business to be carried out for the final year of the HSS Council. Ms Reilly said the final year will still have a full work programme and also a dissolution plan. She said some of the dissolution plan has legal requirements in how you actually wind down an organisation. She said the proposal will be that in the last three or four months the Council will not take on new business. There will have to be an agreed position from members on what the last year will include. Some of the work will involve joint working between the four HSS Councils.

Members agreed to have a Business meeting on 5 April 2007. Confirmation of time and venue will be circulated to members.

Ms Reilly informed members she would be attending a performance and accountability meeting on 19 April 2007 with officers from the Department and she would be updating the Department of the WHSS Council's plans.

C009/07 Review of Public Administration (RPA) Consultation Workshop:

Mrs Gormley advised Members of arrangements for a Consultation Workshop on the RPA and the new Health and Social Care Structures to be held on Friday 16 March 2007 from 10.00am - 3.30pm in the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown.

The Workshop will cover the role and functions of the new strategic Health and Social Services Authority, the Local Commissioning Groups, the Patient Client Council and the proposed Duty of Engagement.

The Workshop has been organised by the four Health and Social Services Councils, in partnership with the DHSSPS with the aim of ensuring a full consultation on these important changes.

C010/07 Members' Issues:

Mr Page asked that when planning a programme of work for the new year consideration be given to the issue of young people with Mental Health problems having to go into Gransha.

C011/07 Any Other Business:

Mr McKelvey said he wished to congratulate the Chief Officer on her response by way of a radio interview to the issue of treatment of staff at Accident and Emergency units.

C012/07 Date, time and place of next Council Meeting:

Date: Monday 21 May 2007
Time: 2.00pm
Place: St Columb's Park House
4 Limavady Road
L'Derry

The meeting ended at 4.20pm