

Health & Social Services Committee

(HSS(2)-04-06)

Meeting date: Wednesday 8 March 2006

Meeting time: 9.30 am to 12. 30 pm

Meeting venue: Committee Room 3&4, Assembly Office, 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
Jenny Randerson	Cardiff Central
Karen Sinclair	Clwyd South

In Attendance

Dr Geoffrey Carroll	Medical Director – Health Commission Wales
Simon Dean	Chief Executive – Health Commission Wales
Professor Ken Woodhouse	Chair – Health Commission Wales

Officials in Attendance

Name	Job title
Ann Lloyd	Head of Health and Social Care Department

Dr David Salter	Acting Chief Medical Officer
Graham Williams	Chief Inspector Social Services Inspectorate Wales (SSIW)
Linda Davies	Health and Social Care Department
Derek Fishwick	Health and Social Care Department
Mike Shanahan	Health and Social Care Department

Assembly Parliamentary Service

Name	Job title
Jane Westlake	Committee Clerk
Catherine Lewis	Deputy Committee Clerk
Peter Jones	Counsel to the Committee
Stephen Boyce	Members Research Service
Carolyn Eason	Members Research Service

Item 1: Apologies and Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

1.1 An Apology was received from Lynne Neagle. There was no substitution.

1.2 There were no declarations of interest.

1.3 A verbatim record of the meeting will be available.

Item 2: Men's Health Issues – Discussion of gender health inequality

Paper: HSS(2)-04-06(p.1);

2.1 The Deputy Minister introduced the paper.

2.2 The Committee requested a paper on LHBs' strategies for promoting sexual health messages to covert homosexual men who engaged in sexual relations.

2.3 The Chair agreed that the Committee would discuss men's mental health and well being at the meeting on 15 June, to co-incide with Men's Health Week.

Action

- The Minister would provide a paper for Committee.
- **Further discussion to be arranged for 15 June.**

Item 3: Minister's Report

Paper: HSS(2)-04-06(p.2);

3.1 Some members had requested that the Committee consider the Minister's statement on free home care for the disabled. It was suggested that a paper be received from the Coalition on Charging. The Chair agreed that the Committee would have a discussion of this issue, and would discuss timing with the Minister.

3.2 The Committee considered the Minister's report.

Action

- The Chair would discuss with the Minister timing for a discussion on free home care for the disabled.
- The Minister would provide a paper to note for the meeting on 23 March, updating the Committee on the Home Oxygen Service Contract.
- The Minister would include an update on Ambulance Response times in his next report to Committee.
- The Minister would provide a note for Committee detailing LHB's actual and accumulative debts.

Item 4: Health Commission Wales

Paper: HSS(2)-04-06(p.3);

4.1 Simon Dean introduced the Commission's paper. Members questioned Mr Dean, Professor Woodhouse and Dr Carroll on the contents of the paper.

Action

- Health Commission Wales would provide information on users' participation in formulating service provision.

Item 5: Minister's Written Response to Committee's report on Review of the National

Service Framework for Mental Health – Standard 2: User and Carer Participation

Paper: HSS(2)-04-06(p.4);

5.1 The Committee agreed that the Minister would provide an update in October on how the Assembly Government was taking forward the recommendations of the review. A further report would come to Committee in March 2007.

Action

- Clerk to schedule further reports.

Item 6: Secondary Legislation

The National Assistance (Assessment of Resources and Sums for Personal Requirements) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2006

Paper: HSS(2)-04-06(p.5&6);

6.1 Two points of clarification had been raised. No amendments had been proposed. The Committee noted the Minister's responses to the points of clarification and was content with the directions as drafted.

Action

- A report on the Committee's conclusions would be sent to the Chair of the Business Committee and laid before the Assembly.

Item 7: Government of Wales Bill – Schedule 11, Paragraph 33

Paper: HSS(2)-04-06(p.5&6);

7.1 The Committee did not have any comments on the Schedule.

Papers to Note

Minutes of the meeting on 16 February 2006

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