

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT SECRETARY GROUP MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY 8 JUNE 2007
GLASSHOUSE, STORMONT CASTLE
AT 8.45 AM**

Present: Nigel Hamilton
Will Haire
John Hunter
Andrew McCormick
Aideen McGinley
Gerry McGinn
Malcolm McKibbin
Stephen Peover
Stephen Quinn
Bruce Robinson
Alan Shannon
Paul Sweeney

In Attendance: Andrew Hamilton } Agenda Item 4
David Sissling }
Rosalie Flanagan }
Stephen Grimson }
John McMillen - (part)
Pauline Boyle - Secretary

1. **Apologies:** None

2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 1 June 2007**

One amendment was received to the minutes of last week's meeting which will be included in final minutes.

3. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

4. **New Approaches to Commissioning**

David Sissling and Andrew Hamilton gave a presentation to PSG on Health Commissioning. They discussed the Policy context, the Health & Social Care Reform Programme, the approach to commissioning including Planning, Purchasing and Performance Management. They outlined the general principles, commissioning objectives and the organisational arrangements. Creating an environment for success Andrew Hamilton emphasised the need to address financial rigidities, the need to create space for devolved decision making, the need to recognise and uphold local legitimacy and to value difference. During the meeting PSG focussed on discussions on commissioning, the financial regime and performance standards.

5. **Assembly and Executive Update**

Rosalie Flanagan updated PSG on the Executive Meeting held on Thursday 7 June.

6. **Tour de Table**

Further Education Sector

Aideen McGinley said she attended a Centenary Celebration of FE Sector at City Hall on Thursday evening.

Aideen reported the sad news of the death of Gwyn Treharne who was the Press Officer in DCAL for many years.

Outturn Report

Bruce Robinson distributed copies of DFP's financial outturn reports broken down by Department. PSG noted the current financial position and agreed to discuss again at PSG meeting on 22 June.

[Action: Secretary & PSG]

Bruce Robinson gave updates on Absence Management, Ministerial Cars, Workplace 2010 and RPA issues on behalf of John Hunter.

Reform

Bruce Robinson said next week's PSG meeting would include a demo by John McKernan on future at work zone and Adryan Bell would give a tour of 2010 Building. He suggested that PSG should break into two groups for these events and a DVD would be issued prior to next week's meeting.

Farm Payments

Malcolm McKibbin said the Minister met with farmers in Loughry last Wednesday in relation to farm ex-gratia payments.

Programme of Events

Stephen Quinn requested clarification on the programme of events for Ministers while in America. It was agreed that careful communication and coordination was needed.

Irish Language Consultation Document

Paul Sweeney reported a huge response and community interest on the Irish Language Consultation document.

Tuberculosis

Andrew McCormick reported on the TB outbreak.

Celtic Forum

Nigel Hamilton informed PSG the Celtic Forum event due to take place on 5-6 July has been cancelled.

Next Week's PSG

PSG on 15 June will be held in Clare House.

**PAULINE BOYLE
13 JUNE 2007**