

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT SECRETARY GROUP MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY 23 JUNE 2006 IN ROOM GD14, STORMONT CASTLE
AT 8.45 AM**

Present: Nigel Hamilton
Will Haire
Don Hill
John Hunter
Gerry Lavery
Greg McConnell
Stephen Peover
Nick Perry
Stephen Quinn
Bruce Robinson
Alan Shannon
David Sterling
Paul Sweeney

In Attendance: Brian Doherty
Neill Jackson
Norman Morrow } - Agenda Item 4
Mark Timoney }
Debbie Sweeney - Secretary

1. **Apologies:** Rosalie Flanagan
Stephen Grimson
Denis McCartney
Andrew McCormick
Aideen McGinley
Gerry McGinn
Pat Toal

2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 16 June**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 June were agreed.

*Bruce Robinson referred to paragraph 5(e) of the minutes of 9 June. It was agreed that the paragraph should read:

"PSG recognised the protocols which continue to apply in respect of PAC issues."

3. **Matters Arising**

Assembly Update

Neill Jackson updated PSG on the week's Assembly Business.

CHX Visit

Nigel Hamilton passed on his thanks to all involved in the organisation of the Chancellor's visit. It had been very successful; the Chancellor, through the Secretary of State, had passed on his thanks to all concerned and had commented that the content of his programme was excellent.

4. **Medicines Management and Safety**

Dr Norman Morrow introduced his presentation on Medicines Management and Safety.

Norman said that medicines management encompassed the entire way that medicines are selected, procured, delivered, prescribed, administered and reviewed to optimise the contribution that medicines make to producing informed and desired outcomes of patient care.

Norman outlined the annual medicine usage per person and the amount spent on medicine. Norman said the Pharmaceutical Service Improvement Programme involved therapeutic tendering from pharmaceutical companies with target savings of £16 million.

Nigel Hamilton thanked Norman and Mark for their presentation and for the insight into the cultural change and reform process within the pharmaceutical environment.

5. **Tour de Table**

Redundant Military and PSNI Sites

PSG discussed the regeneration opportunities presented by redundant military and PSNI sites.

It was agreed that a strategic view on the handling of the sites was needed and should be presented to PSG and then Ministers to make them aware of the scale of the sites, location, costs and way forward options.

PSG agreed that Nigel Hamilton and Alan Shannon would discuss the matters and Alan then co-ordinate the strategic view.

[Action: Nigel Hamilton/Alan Shannon]

PAC

Will Haire and Paul Sweeney updated PSG on their PAC sessions.

Both Paul and Will emphasised the importance of ensuring points made from previous audit reports were followed up, as the issue was referred to by the PAC Chair.

[Departments to note]

SEELB

Will updated PSG on the SEELB.

Community Festivals

Paul Sweeney updated PSG on community festival funding.

Nomadic

Alan Shannon said the Nomadic would arrive on 24 July.

CSR

Bruce Robinson updated PSG on CSR and the June Monitoring Round.

PSC

John Hunter said he met with the PSC and said a number of concerns had been raised which he would be addressing.

Waiting Times Speech

Don Hill said the Minister would be making a speech on Monday 26 June on trolley waits, A&E ambulances and the Health Service in Northern Ireland.

Flood Management

Gerry Lavery said the Flood Management Review report would be circulated to Departments for consultation.

Post Office

Neill Jackson said he would be attending a meeting in London as part of a working group to consider the future of the Post Office post 2008.

PSG Meetings

Nigel Hamilton said there would be no meeting on 30 June, 14 July and 21 July.

DEBBIE SWEENEY
26 June 2006