Health and Social Care Committee

Meeting Venue: Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: Thursday, 16 October 2014

Meeting time: 10.18 – 12.48

This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at: http://www.senedd.tv/Meeting/Index/67403aa0-5e48-4daf-8199-4596008429fc

Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:
David Rees AM (Chair)
Alun Davies AM
Janet Finch-Saunders AM
John Griffiths AM
Elin Jones AM
Darren Millar AM
Lynne Neagle AM
Gwyn R Price AM
Lindsay Whittle AM
Kirsty Williams AM

Witnesses:
Mark Drakeford AM, The Minister for Health and Social Services
Vaughan Gething AM, The Deputy Minister for Health
Dr Andrew Goodall, Welsh Government
Albert Heaney, Welsh Government
Martin Sollis, Welsh Government

Committee Staff:
Llinos Madeley (Clerk)
Sian Giddins (Deputy Clerk)
Amy Clifton (Researcher)
Martin Jennings (Researcher)
1 The Committee's forward work programme
1.1 The Members discussed the forward work programme and agreed to return to this item at a later date.

2 Introductions, apologies and substitutions
2.1 There were no apologies.

3 Papers to note
3.1 The Committee noted:
   - the minutes from the previous meeting;
   - the correspondence from the First Minister regarding Ministerial portfolios; and
   - the correspondence between the Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee and the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.
3.2 The Committee noted the letter from the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding the Welsh Ambulance Service Trust's recruitment plan. The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Health and Social Services to seek clarification on how many people have departed the ambulance service during the period covered by the recruitment plan and the net difference in staff numbers.

4 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2015–16: Ministerial scrutiny session
4.1 The Committee scrutinised the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Deputy Health on the Welsh Government’s draft budget for 2015–16.
4.2 The Minister for Health and Social Services agreed to provide the Committee with;
   - clarification on the budget allocations for mental health services, particularly how the £529 million quoted in the Minister’s paper to the Committee compares with previous years’ funding; and
   - analysis of the quantity and level of in-year settlements made against the risk Welsh Risk Pool in recent years.

5 Motion under Standing Orders 17.42(vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting
5.1 The motion was agreed.
6 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2015–16: Consideration of evidence received

6.1 The Committee considered the evidence received from the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Deputy Minister for Health and agreed to write to them seeking clarification on a number of issues raised during the session.

6.2 The Committee agreed that this letter would be shared with the Finance Committee to inform its scrutiny of the draft budget.