

Health and Social Care Committee

Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 3 – Senedd**

Meeting date: **Thursday, 6 November 2014**

Meeting time: **09.05 – 14.26**

This meeting can be viewed on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/2535>

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

David Rees AM (Chair)
Alun Davies AM
Janet Finch–Saunders AM
John Griffiths AM
Elin Jones AM
Darren Millar AM
Gwyn R Price AM
Lindsay Whittle AM
Kirsty Williams AM

Witnesses:

Jeremy Sare, Angelus Foundation
Harry Shapiro, DrugScope
Professor Philip Routledge OBE, Welsh Emerging Drugs and Identification of Novel Substances (WEDINOS)
Josephine Smith, Welsh Emerging Drugs and Identification of Novel Substances (WEDINOS)
Dr Quentin Sandifer, Public Health Wales
Joanne Davies, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board
Jamie Harris, SANDS Cymru
Nicola John, Cwm Taf University Health Board
Julia Lewis, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Jonathan Whelan, Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Kathryn Peters, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Jackie Garland, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Andrea Lewis, Swansea Council
Angela Cronin, Bridgend Youth Service
Richard Webb, Oxfordshire County Council

Committee Staff:

Llinos Madeley (Clerk)
Helen Finlayson (Second Clerk)
Sian Giddins (Deputy Clerk)
Rhys Morgan (Deputy Clerk)
Gareth Howells (Legal Advisor)
Amy Clifton (Researcher)

Transcript

View the [meeting transcript](#).

1 The Committee's forward work programme

1.1 The Committee agreed to undertake an inquiry into alcohol and substance misuse. Members considered and agreed the terms of reference and the Committee's approach to the inquiry.

2 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

2.1 Apologies were received from Lynne Neagle. Ann Jones acted as a substitute.

3 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances ("legal highs"): Evidence session 1

3.1 Apologies were received from Maryon Stewart.

3.2 The witnesses responded to questions from Members.

4 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances ("legal highs"): Evidence session 2

4.1 The witnesses responded to questions from Members.

4.2 Dr Quentin Sandifer agreed to supply the Committee with additional information about how Public Health Wales engages and communicates with communities in Wales about new psychoactive substances.

4.3 The Committee agreed to write to TICTAC to seek clarification on whether they test the substances received in addition to providing visual drug identification.

5 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”): Evidence session 3

5.1 The witnesses responded to questions from Members.

6 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”): Evidence session 4

6.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Mark Child. Jackie Garland acted as substitute.

6.2 The witnesses responded to questions from Members.

6.3 Richard Webb agreed to provide further information about a toolkit that is being developed by trading standards officers on how to approach the issue of new psychoactive substances. He also agreed to provide a view in writing about the impact of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 on trading standards officers' approach to new psychoactive substances.

7 Papers to note

7.0a The Committee noted the minutes of the meetings on 16 and 22 October.

7.1 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”): Note from the visits held on 2 October 2014

7.1a The Committee noted the note of the visits held on 2 October 2014 in relation to the inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”).

7.2 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”): Note from the focus group events held on 2 October 2014

7.2a The Committee noted the note of the focus groups held on 2 October 2014 in relation to the inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”).

7.3 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”): Results of the Committee's survey

7.3a The Committee noted the results of the Committee's survey in relation to the inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”).

7.4 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”): Consultation responses

7.4a The Committee noted the consultation responses in relation to the inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”).

7.5 Public Health White Paper: Follow up from 8 October 2014

7.5a The Committee noted the responses from both the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Chief Medical Officer in relation to the factual briefing on the Public Health White Paper.

7.6 Correspondence from the Petitions Committee: P-04-568 Public Inquiry into ABMU Health Board

7.6a The Committee agreed to write to the Chair of Petitions Committee to inform the Petitions Committee that although this is not a matter the Health and Social Care Committee is considering currently, the Public Accounts Committee is undertaking a piece of work on health board governance in NHS Wales The Health and Social Care Committee agreed to await the outcome of that inquiry before considering the matter further.

8 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting

8.1 The motion was agreed.

9 Inquiry into new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”): Consideration of evidence received

9.1 The Committee considered the evidence received on the inquiry.