

**MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC HEALTH/DHSS.  
MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 1996 AT 10.00AM IN DUNDONALD HOUSE.**

<b>AGENDA</b>		<b>Paper</b>
1	Apologies	
2	Minutes of the Meeting on 6 November 1995	1/96
3	Matters Arising:-	
	i    Update on Training Posts for PAMs	
	ii   Northern Ireland Public Health Laboratory	
	iii  Psychiatric Services for the Deaf	
	iv   The Use of Folates in the Prevention of NTDs	
	v    AIDS Report	
4	The Commissioning and Provision of Maternity Services: Policy Circular	2/96
5	Regional Audit Committee - publication of work programme	
6	Selection of Audit Topics in Relation To Regional Services.	3/96
7	MISTLETOE/VALUE Studies	4/96
8	Therapy in Schools	*
9	Consultant Appointment Panels - role of Regional Adviser in smaller specialties	
10	Revised Arrangements for Distinction Awards	5/96
11	Future Configuration of Child Health Services in Northern Ireland	6/96
12	ENT Activity Levels	7/96
13	DPH Annual Report i      Joint Report with Director of Social Services	8/96
	ii     Publication date	
14	MRSA	*
15	Northern Ireland Input into the Confidential Enquiry into Homicides and Suicides by Mentally Ill People	9/96
16	Research into Acute Mental Health Services	10/96
17	Recent Advances in Medicine	11/96
18	HIV Autopsies	12/96
19	Any Other Business	
20	Next Meeting	

\* Papers relating to these items will follow as soon as possible.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC HEALTH/DHSS  
HELD ON MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 1996 AT 10.00AM IN DUNDONALD HOUSE.**

**Present:**

Dr W W M McConnell  
Dr D Stewart  
Dr A M Telford  
Dr J D Watson

**Department:**

Dr H Campbell (Chairman)  
Dr C E Hall  
Dr P McClements  
Dr J D Acton  
Mrs N McArdle  
Dr H Kilgore  
Dr A Mairs  
Dr P Woods

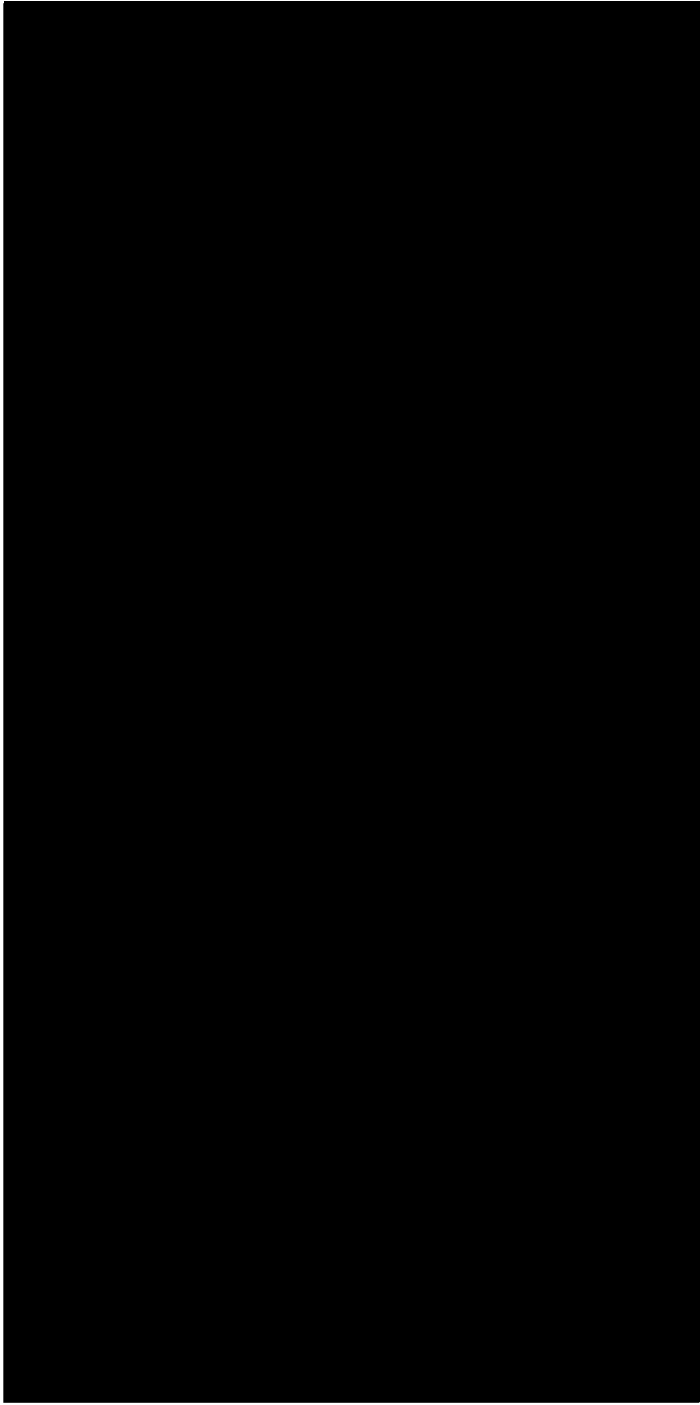
**FURTHER ACTION**

**1 APOLOGIES.**

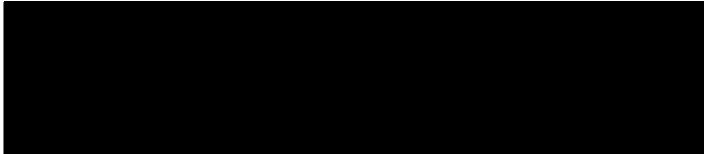
**2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6  
NOVEMBER 1995. PAPER DsPH 1/96.**

**3 MATTERS ARISING.**

**i Update on Training Posts For PAMs.**

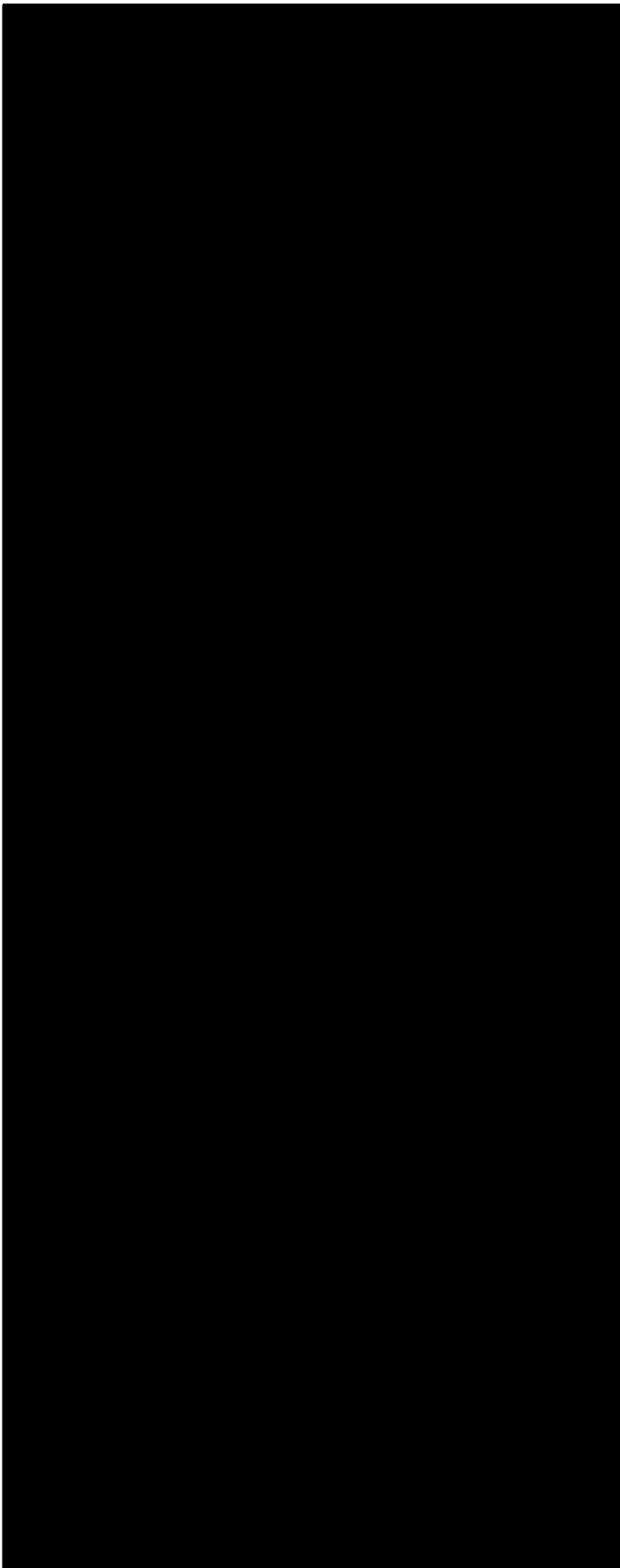


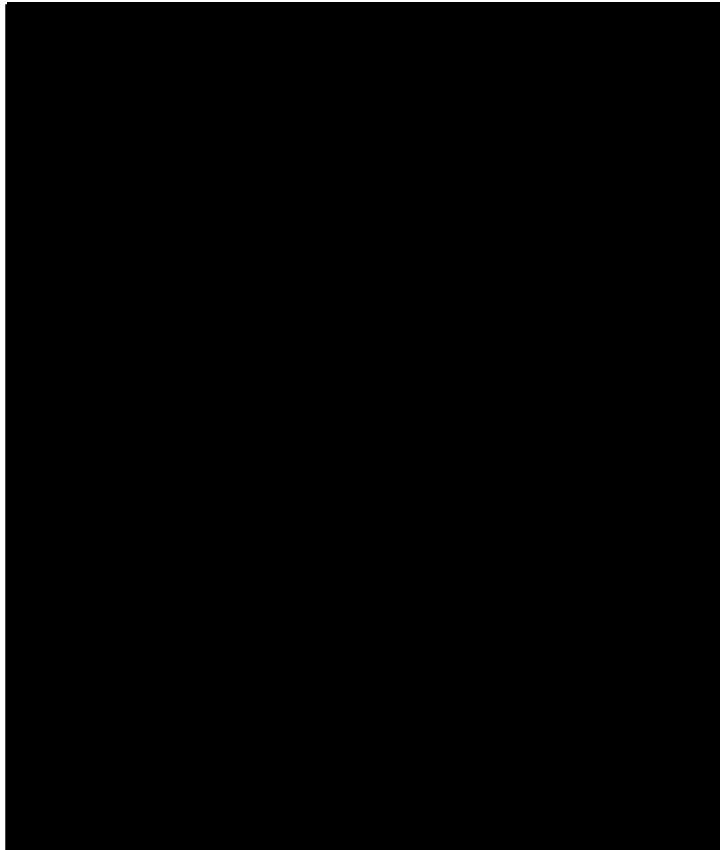
**ii Northern Ireland Public Health Laboratory.**



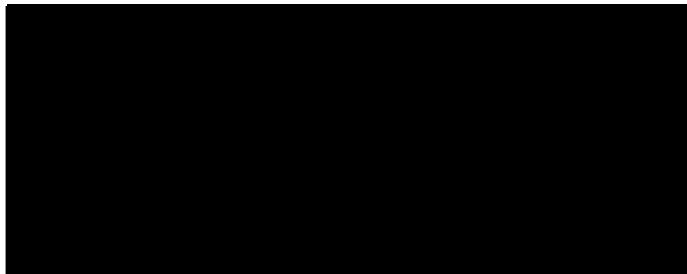
**iii Update on the Cancer Working Group.**



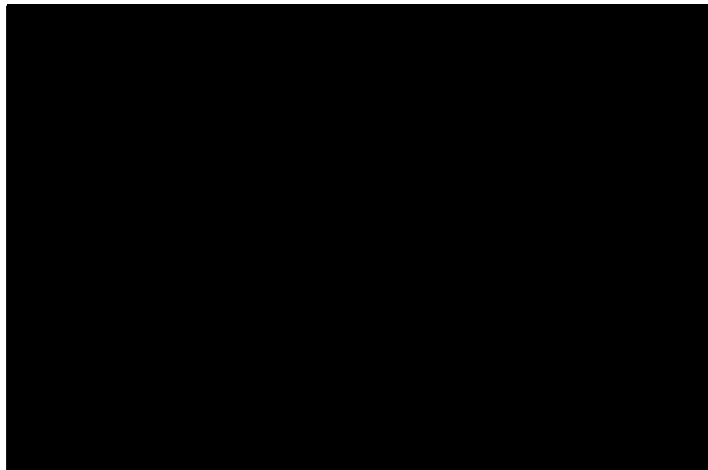


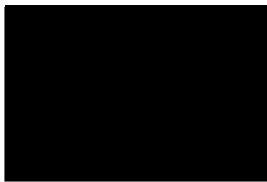
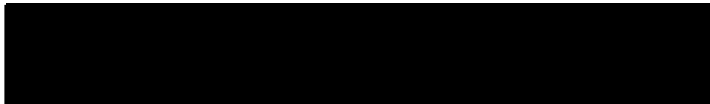


**iv      Psychiatric Services for the Deaf.**

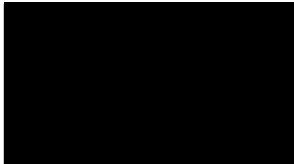
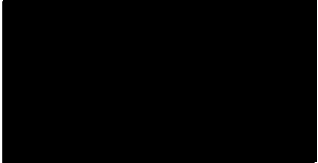
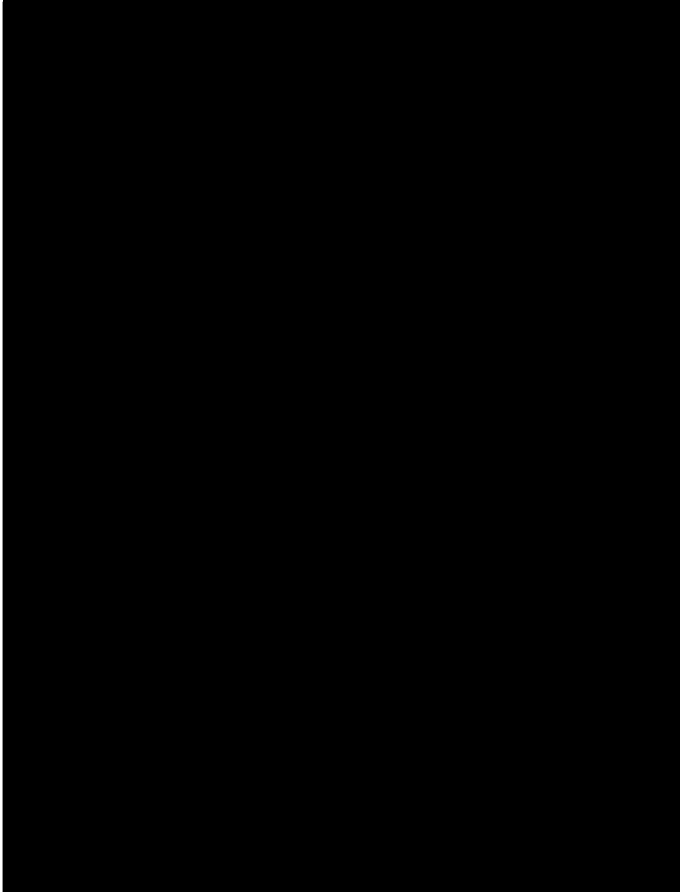


**v        The Use of Folates in The Prevention of NTDs.**

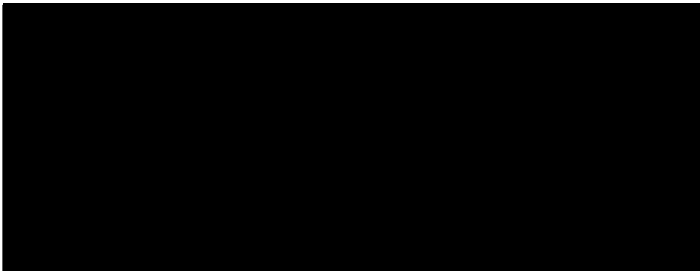




**vi Review of Health Promotion Arrangements.**

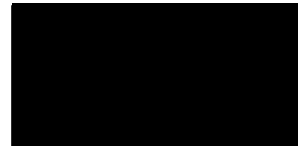
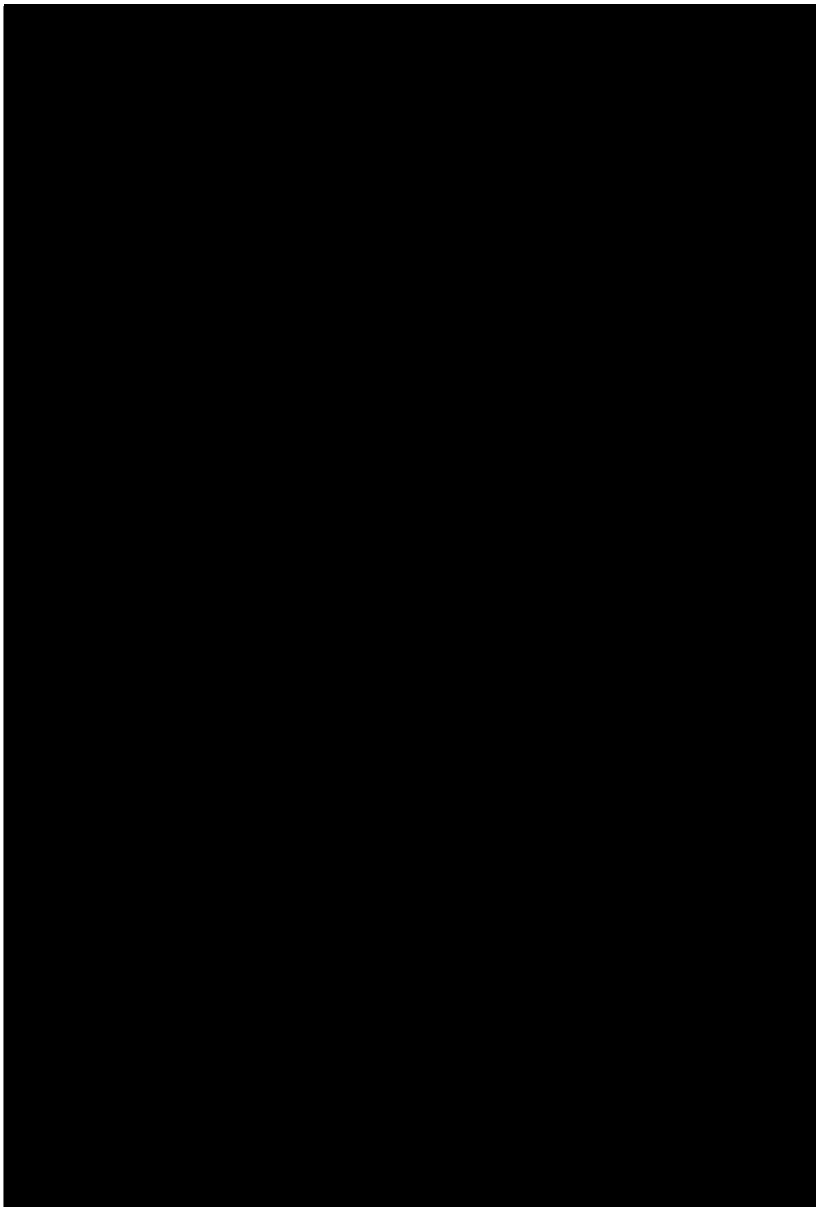


**vii AIDS Report.**



**4 THE COMMISSIONING AND PROVISION OF MATERNITY SERVICES: POLICY CIRCULAR. PAPER DsPH 2/96.**





**5 REGIONAL AUDIT COMMITTEE - PUBLICATION OF WORK PROGRAMME.**

Dr McConnell noted that the Regional Audit Committee had not published reports. Dr Watson was concerned that the Committee did not appear to be possessed of any direction, and perhaps needed to be restructured. It was suggested that one meeting be held each year to set out a programme of work for that year. Dr McClements said the Committee was intended to be the driving force behind audit in Northern Ireland but probably lacked the infrastructure to accomplish this effectively. It was agreed that Dr Watson should contact Dr Keegan, as new chairman of the Committee, to discuss in particular its

Dr Watson to contact Dr Keegan

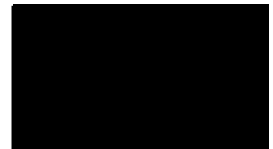
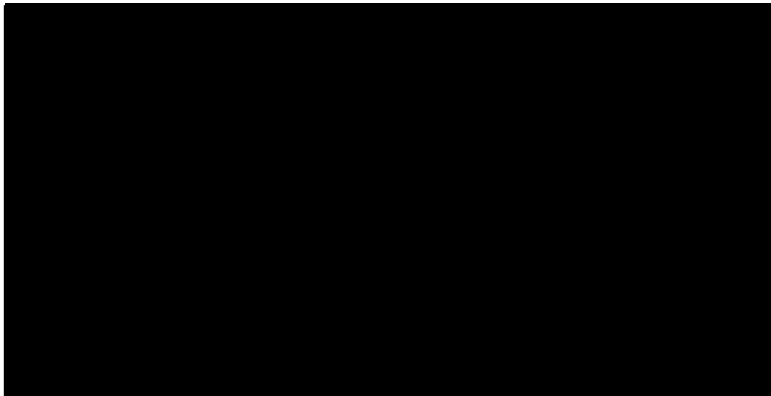
relationship with the Area Audit Committees. Dr McConnell said the Committee should be encouraged to formulate a strategy. It was felt that this could be best achieved by a small executive committee. It was agreed that Dr Keegan should be invited to a future meeting of DsPH/DHSS.

Dr Keegan to be invited to a future meeting of DsPH/DHSS

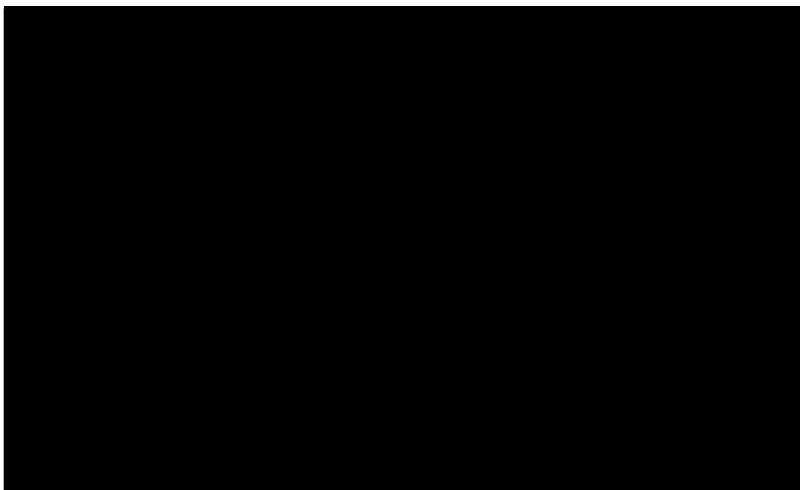
**6 SELECTION OF AUDIT TOPICS IN RELATION TO REGIONAL SERVICES. PAPER DsPH 3/96.**

Dr Telford said she would like to see a common approach to the selection of topics for audit and suggested that RMSC might be able to co-ordinate. Dr McConnell said RMSC considered this role outside its remit, and he suggested holding an informal meeting of DsPH. He felt it was also necessary to encourage audit by addressing the system of incentives now in place. Equally, he felt there should be a system of penalties if audit was not carried out to a sufficiently high standard.

**7 MISTLETOE/VALUE STUDIES. PAPER DsPH 4/96.**



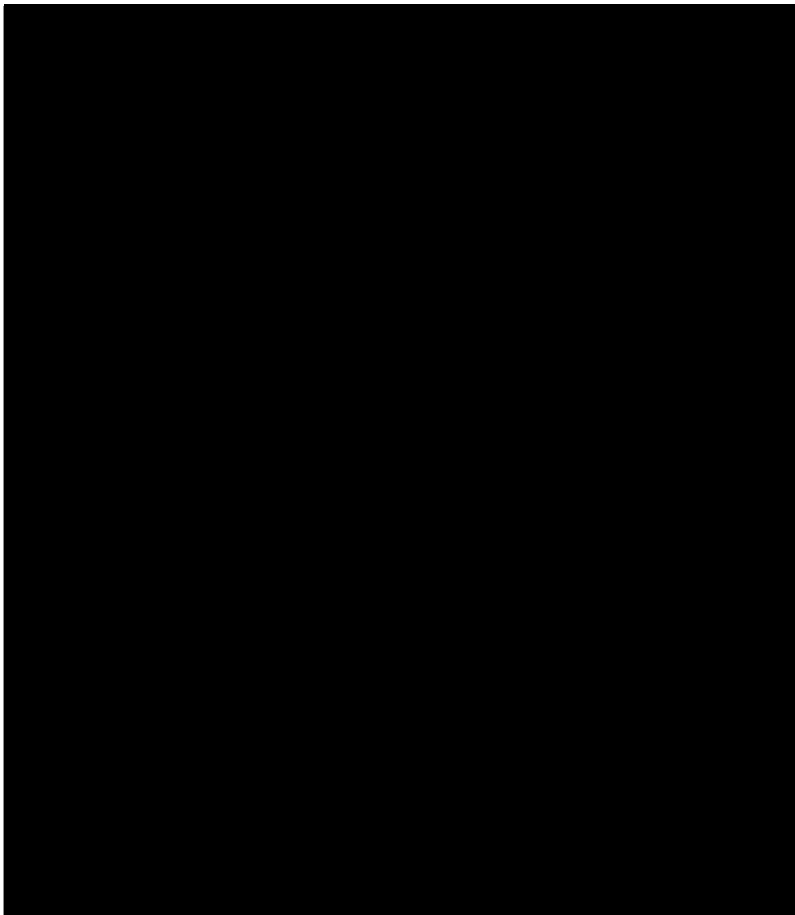
**8 THERAPY IN SCHOOLS.**



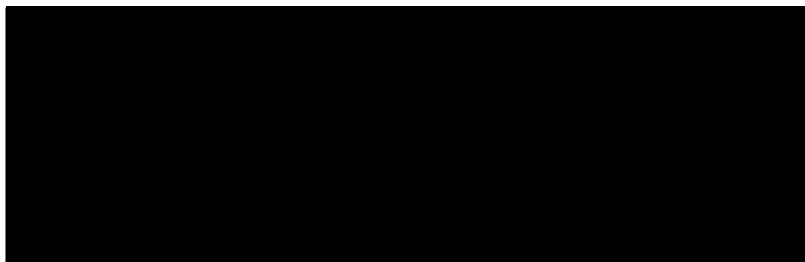




**9 CONSULTANT APPOINTMENT PANELS - ROLE OF REGIONAL ADVISER IN SMALLER SPECIALTIES.**



**10 REVISED ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISTINCTION AWARDS. PAPER DsPH 5/96.**



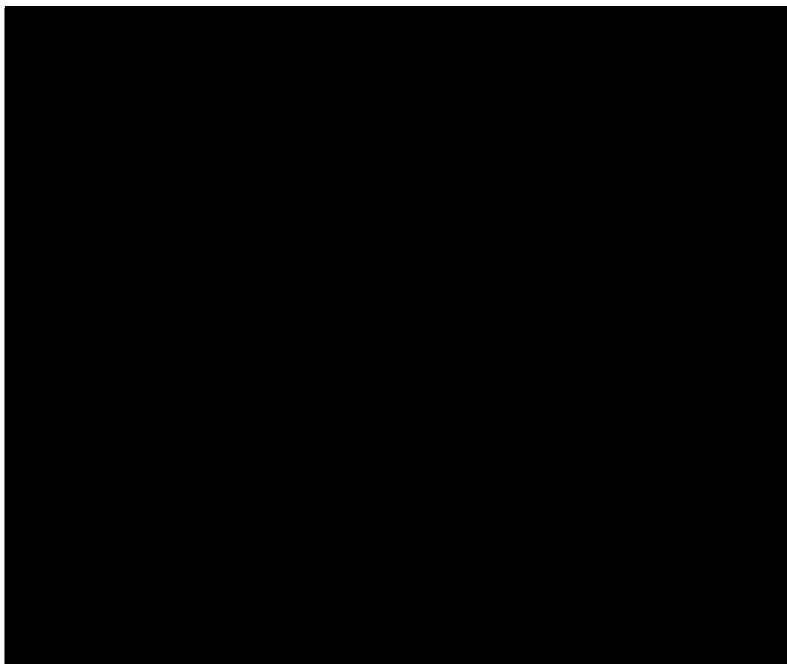


**11 FUTURE CONFIGURATION OF CHILD HEALTH SERVICES IN NORTHERN IRELAND. PAPER DsPH 6/96.**

Introducing this item, CMO informed DsPH that SAC Paediatrics had recommended a review of Child Health

Services in Northern Ireland, to be carried out as soon as possible. Dr Telford and Dr Watson felt that the prospect of such a review would delay the implementation of the Combined Child Health Service. Dr Watson suggested that the review should not commence until the assimilation of CMOs and SCMOs had been completed, and the Regional Strategy and Maternity Services Policy Circular had issued. It was agreed that work should not yet commence on the review of child health services in Northern Ireland.

**12 ENT ACTIVITY LEVELS. PAPER DsPH 7/96.**

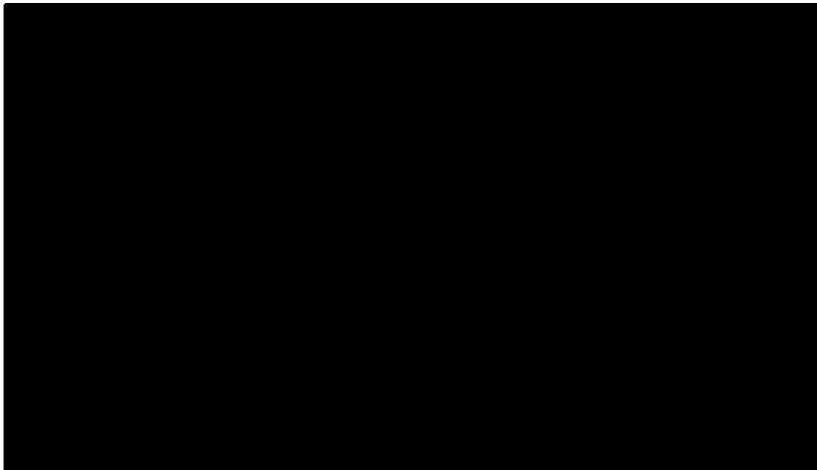


**13 DPH ANNUAL REPORT. PAPER DsPH 8/96.**

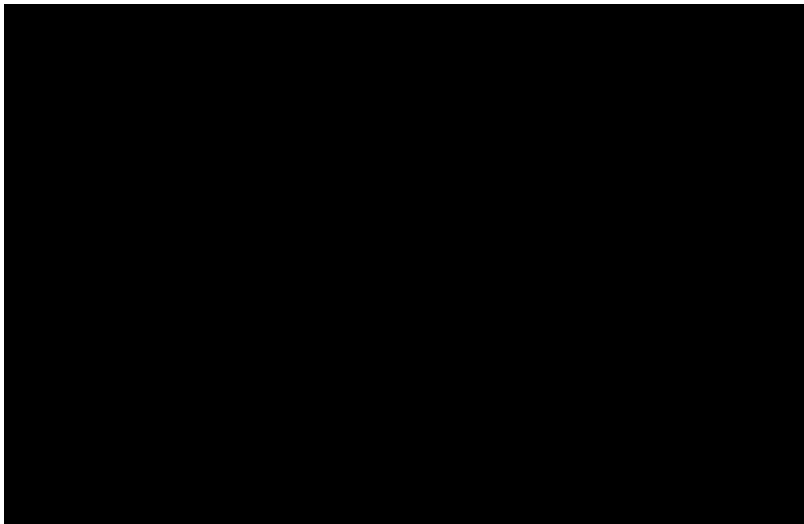
Dr Telford said the Southern Board's Director of Social Services had proposed to issue a joint report with the Director of Public Health. She invited comments. Dr Watson pointed out that the DPH report was a statutory requirement, whilst the DSS report was required only by the Board. Dr McConnell said Dr Gaffney had examined this issue and had concluded that some sections of each report, such as those on demography, were broadly the same. Dr Watson concluded that there was room for some co-operation, but that the independence of the DPH report should be protected. This was agreed.

**14 MRSA.**

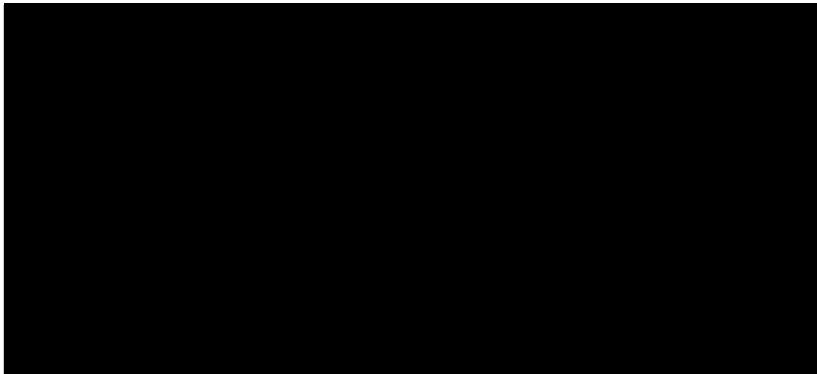




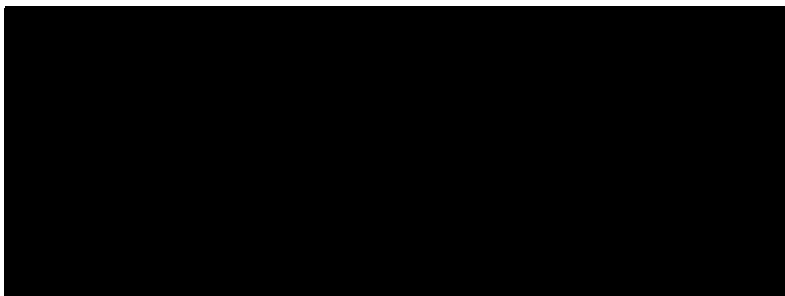
- 15** **NORTHERN IRELAND INPUT INTO THE CONFIDENTIAL ENQUIRY INTO HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES BY MENTALLY ILL PEOPLE. PAPER DsPH 9/96.**



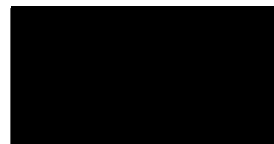
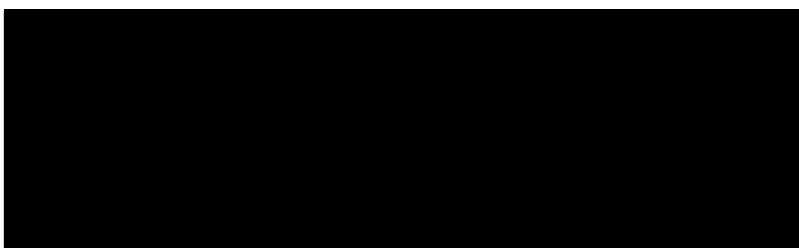
- 16** **RESEARCH INTO ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. PAPER DsPH 10/96.**



- 17 **RECENT ADVANCES IN MEDICINE. PAPER DsPH 11/96.**



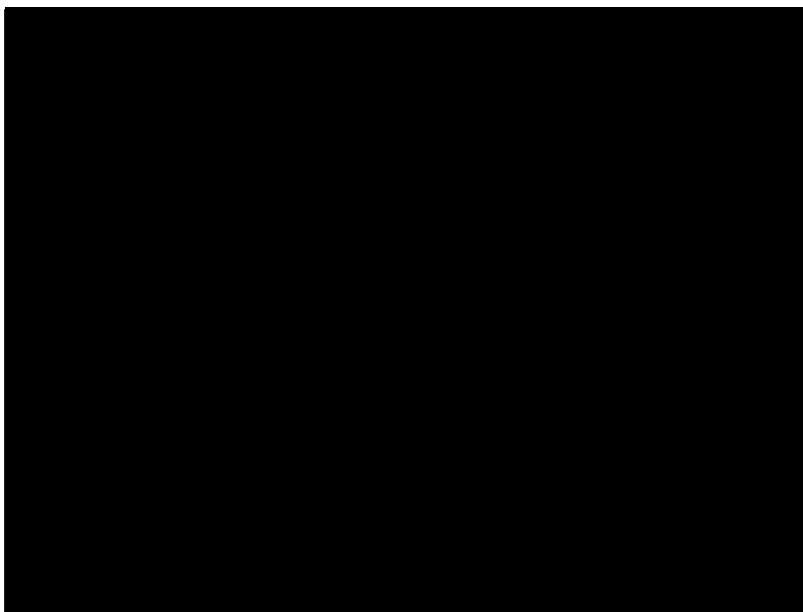
- 18 **HIV AUTOPSIES. PAPER DsPH 12/96.**



- 19 **GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL - ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PHYSICIANS.**

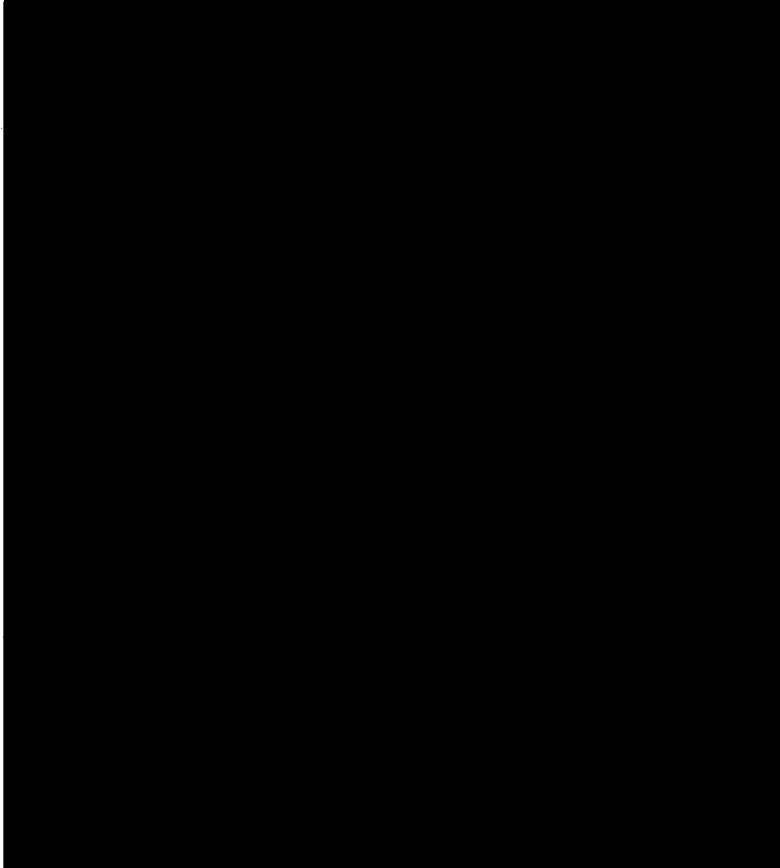
Dr Telford said she had raised this matter for information. The range of competencies appropriate to a consultant in public health medicine were being determined and assessment procedures piloted. It was likely that Civil Service doctors would be included in these procedures.

- 20 **MEDICAL STUDENT INTAKE TO QUB.**



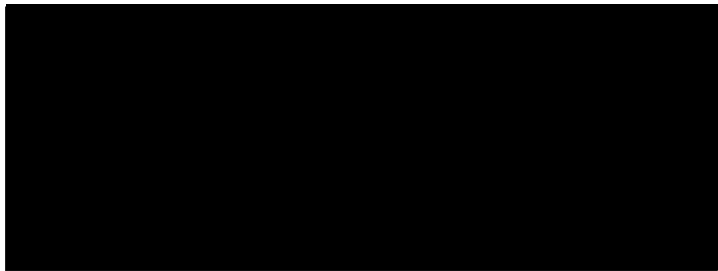


**21 SPECIALIST REGISTRARS IN PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICINE.**



**22 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

**i Research Ethics Committees.**



**23 NEXT MEETING.**

