

Minutes of the Regional Health Forum, Dublin Mid Leinster held on Tuesday 21st November 2017 at the Boardroom, HSE Area Office, Arden Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Present:

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| 1. Cllr. W. Aird | 15. Cllr. A. Feeney |
| 2. Cllr. V. Blake | 16. Cllr. P. Fleming |
| 3. Cllr. P. Brady | 17. Cllr. V. Jackson |
| 4. Cllr. T. Cullen | 18. Cllr. F. Keena |
| 5. Cllr. V. Casserly (Chair) | 19. Cllr. C. King |
| 6. Cllr. M. Dalton | 20. Cllr. J. King |
| 7. Cllr. C. Devlin | 21. Cllr. T. Mc Keigue |
| 8. Cllr. M. Dollard | 22. Cllr. R. McHugh |
| 9. Cllr. K. Daly | 23. Cllr. C. O'Connor |
| 10. Cllr. P. Doran | 24. Cllr. D. O'Donovan |
| 11. Cllr. M. Duff | 25. Cllr. G. O'Neill |
| 12. Cllr. P. Hand | 26. Cllr. P. O'Toole |
| 13. Cllr. G. Kelly | 27. Cllr. T. Redmond |
| 14. Cllr E. Fitzpatrick | 28. Cllr. P.J. Reilly |
| | 29. Cllr. A. White |

Apologies:

Mr. Joseph Ruane, Interim Lead, HSE Regional Health Forum DML
Ms. Eilish Hardiman, CEO, The National Children's Hospital Group
Ms Martina Queally, Chief Officer, CHO 6
Ms Mary Day, CEO, Ireland East Hospital Group
Ms. Paula Lawler, Chief Operations Officer, IEHG
Cllr. Anthony Larkin
Cllr. Brendan Weld
Cllr. Louise Dunne
Cllr. Cathal King
Cllr. Carrie Smyth

In attendance:

Mr. David Walsh, Chief Officer, CHO, South Dublin/Kildare/West Wicklow, Health Service Executive
Mr. Pat Bennett, Chief Officer, CHO, Midlands/Louth/Meath
Ms. Siobhan Fitzpatrick, CHO 6
Dr. Susan O'Reilly, CEO, Dublin Midlands Hospital Group
Mr. Trevor O'Callaghan, Chief Operations Officer, Dublin Midland Hospital Group
Mr. Martin Feeley, Clinical Director, Dublin Midland Hospital Group
Ms Arlene Crean, Communications Manager, Dublin Midland Hospital Group
Ms. Dymphna Bracken, Communications Manager Midlands/Louth/Meath
Ms. Sharon Whelehan, Regional Health Forum Office

Cllr. Vicki Casserly, Chairperson extended sympathy to Joseph Ruane on the sudden death of his late mother Chrissie Ruane on behalf of the Forum. Councillors spoke at length of the great work Mrs Ruane did throughout her life as a nurse, midwife and public health nurse and how she will be a great loss to the community of Mountbellew.

Cllr. Casserly also extended sympathy to Cllr. Mark Dalton on the death of his late mother on behalf of the forum. Cllrs joined with Cllr Casserly to offer their sympathies.

Mr. Pat Bennett offered condolences on the tragic deaths of HSE colleagues, late Mr. Hackett, Ms McGlynn and Ms Guinan on his own behalf and on behalf of HSE Management.

Cllr. Cullen and Cllr. O'Neill extended their sympathies to Dr. Siobhan Barry and commended the great work she done throughout her life.

Following a proposal from Cllr. Casserly, seconded by Cllr. Fitzpatrick, the meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes as a mark of respect.

Adjourning of Standing Orders

Following a proposal from Cllr. Fleming seconded by Cllr. Redmond, it was agreed to adjourn the Standing Orders after the presentation to speak to Dr Susan O'Reilly regarding the planned downgrade of Portlaoise Hospital.

17:06:01 Adoption of minutes of the meetings of the Regional Health Forum, Dublin – Mid Leinster held on 21st November 2017

On the proposal of Cllr. McKeigue and seconded by Cllr. Brady the minutes of the Regional Health Forum, Dublin Mid-Leinster held on Tuesday 21st November 2017 were adopted.

17:06:02 HSE Update – Healthy Ireland- Men (HI-M 2017-2021) - Mr Finian McGrath

Cllr. Vicki Casserly (Chairperson) introduced Mr. Finian McGrath, Mens's Health Development Officer to the forum members. Mr McGrath gave a detailed presentation explaining the importance of "men friendly approach" to health.

Members praised Mr McGrath for a very informative presentation.

Members asked questions following the presentation and the below issues were raised.

Men's Sheds

Members discussed that the Men's Shed has benefit many people over the last few years since they were first set up in 2009. Mr McGrath agreed and advised it was found that the shed is a place where men can access male health information, not necessarily through the usual form of leaflets or classes but through the informal conversations between the men. Within the shed, men are opening up to each other; they are exchanging experiences and sharing concerns regarding health and other matters.

Rural Ireland

With the closure of rural post offices and shops there's a huge gap in relation to social contact in rural Ireland. Members felt that new drink-driving laws are creating further isolation and driving suicide rates up. They felt Men's Sheds helped to tackle the isolation issues.

Prostate Cancer

Members sought information regarding prostate cancer as there is no massive advocate group. What tests/screening was available?

Mr McGrath provided information leaflets to assist with all the health queries.

Heart Health and Blood Pressure

Dr Susan O'Reilly advised that men and people in general have to take ownership of their own health through healthy diet and exercise to ensure a healthy heart, and optimum blood pressure.

They spoke about the symptoms of a heart attack and taking positive steps to preventing them. Mr McGrath advised that anyone can access "A Man's guide to Heart Health" from the Irish Heart Foundation if they had any concerns.

As per above, it was agreed by members to adjourn Standing Orders to discuss the future of Portlaoise Hospital

Update on Portlaoise Hospital

Dr O' Reilly updated members on the proposed action plan for the future of the Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise which has been submitted to the Department of Health for consideration.

Following the update, members received a report regarding the above. They thanked Dr O'Reilly for the update.

17:06:03 Motions

Motion 1

To call on the HSE to give break down of guidelines surrounding prescribed applications for special needs car seats for children with disabilities for his/her safety in transport where off the shelf car seats are not adequate

Cllr. Vicki Casserly

A report on this motion was prepared by Dr Cathal Morgan, Head of Operations, Disability Services, Social Care Division. Cllr. Casserly raised concerns regarding the response Mr. David Walsh promised to seek further clarification.

Motion 2

That the HSE DML region would provide relevant information re: service developments for Mullingar Regional Hospital going forward?

Cllr. Michael Dollard

A response to this motion was prepared by Ms. Mary Day, CEO, Ireland East Hospital Group. Cllr. Dollard sought further clarification regarding the timeframe referred to in the response. Members noted the report.

Motion 3

That the HSE estates and management give monthly updates to this forum on the work its undertaking on the Monasterevin Day Care facility located on Drogheda Street. This should include as much information monthly as possible. I would ask that this is left on the agenda until the work is complete.

Cllr. Thomas Redmond

A response to this motion was prepared by Mr. David Walsh, Chief Officer of Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow CHO. Members noted the report.

Motion 4

We wish to put a motion forward to the meeting for the HSE to call on the Minister for Health Simon Harris, TD to add Crohns Disease to the list of prescribed illness on the Long Term Illness Scheme.

Cllr. PJ Reilly

The motion by supported by Cllr. McKeigue and seconded by Cllr Fitzpatrick. The Forum agreed to write to the Minister.

Motion 5

We wish to put a motion forward to the meeting for the HSE to call on the Minister for Health Simon Harris, TD to ask him to provide free Anomaly scans on a national basis as part of the Antenatal programme.

**Cllr. Paraic Brady
Cllr. Pat O'Toole**

The motion seconded by Cllr Casserly. The Forum agreed to write to the Minister.

Motion 6

This committee agree that an information leaflet be supplied to cancer patients and visitors regarding the charges for Car Parking at St Luke's St James Hospital, presently patients and visitors are not made aware of €5 per day or €30 per week charges.

Cllr. Ray McHugh

A response to this motion was prepared by Dr. Susan O'Reilly, CEO, Dublin Midlands Hospital Group. Members noted the report.

Motion 7

That this Regional Health Forum, Dublin Mid-Leinster, welcomes news of proposals by Tallaght Hospital to help build further capacity at the Hospital in respect of future demands particularly in relation to what is seen as the growth of the aging population in its catchment area and in reporting could the Forum have details of

discussions taking place with the HSE and Tallaght Hospital Management and will the report also include full details of all proposals in that regard.

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor

A response to this motion was prepared by Dr. Susan O'Reilly, CEO, Dublin Midlands Hospital Group.

Motion 8

To call on the Children's Hospital Group and Management to employ and implement a psychiatric liaison nurse to give 7 day cover providing assessment of acute onset and admission for paediatric patients including Suicidal Ideations, deliberate self-harm, eating disorders thus providing support for patients and families at Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin. A&E assessments are a huge part of the role, including risk assessments to assess if it is safe to send patient home until seen by psychiatric team.

Cllr Vicki Casserly

A response to this motion was prepared by Ms. Eilish Hardiman, CEO, Children's Hospital Group. Cllr. Casserly sought more information regarding the following

- Why is it not a recognised facility if they have patients presenting?
- Unit costing for the HSE

Clarification to be sought from the Children's Hospital Group (not in attendance).

Members noted the report.

Motion 9

This forum backs the medical boards of the three children's hospitals who have rejected the proposed new name for the national children's hospital.

As reported there is already a large academic centre in America called Phoenix Children's Hospital.

This forum would like to back the call to rename the new hospital the Kathleen Lynn Children's Hospital

I believe that naming it the Kathleen Lynn Children's Hospital would be recognition for her important role in delivering medical care for the women and children of Dublin, the poor in particular, in her pioneering St Ultan's Hospital which was only down the canal from St James Hospital at Charlemont Street.

Kathleen was a Mayo woman who challenged many of the norms in society at the time in relation to women; being a suffragette, a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, the first resident doctor in the Eye and Ear Hospital, instrumental in the roll-out of the BCG vaccine, a soup kitchen worker during Lock Out 1913, a Citizen Army Volunteer and the Officer Commanding of the City Hall garrison at the end of Easter Week 1916, a prisoner of war, a TD and a councillor, and founder of St Ultan's Hospital where she worked until she was over 80.

Cllr Greg Kelly

A report on this motion was prepared by Ms. Eilish Hardiman, CEO, Children's Hospital Group. Members noted the report.

Motion 10

That this Dublin Mid-Leinster Regional Health Forum ask if a rethink is being considered in respect of the naming of the new Children's Hospital and the Satellite Units at Tallaght and Blanchardstown given the recent decision by the Medical Boards at the Hospitals and other negative reaction and can we have a presentation in the matter?

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor

A report on this motion was prepared by Ms. Eilish Hardiman, CEO, Children's Hospital Group. Members noted the report.

17.06.04 Questions

Responses to questions submitted were circulated to members.

Cllr. Casserly thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned.