

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Regional Health Forum, Dublin Mid Leinster held
on Tuesday 29th July 2014 at the Boardroom, HSE Area Office, Arden Road,
Tullamore, Co. Offaly.**

Present:

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| 1. Cllr. M. Dollard (Outgoing
Chairperson) | 16. Cllr. G. Kelly |
| 2. Cllr. W. Aird | 17. Cllr. B. Killeavy |
| 3. Cllr. V. Blake | 18. Cllr. D. Lacey |
| 4. Cllr. P. Brady | 19. Cllr. A. Larkin |
| 5. Cllr. V. Casserly | 20. Cllr. R. McHugh |
| 6. Cllr. T. Cullen | 21. Cllr. T. McKeigue |
| 7. Cllr. M. Dalton | 22. Cllr. S. O'Brien |
| 8. Cllr. M. Devine | 23. Cllr. K. O'Connell |
| 9. Cllr. P. Doran | 24. Cllr. C. O'Connor |
| 10. Cllr. M. Duff | 25. Cllr. D. O'Donovan |
| 11. Cllr. K. Feeney | 26. Cllr. G. O'Neill |
| 12. Cllr. P. Fleming | 27. Cllr. P. O'Toole |
| 13. Cllr. P. Hand | 28. Cllr. P.J. Reilly |
| 14. Cllr. V. Jackson | 29. Cllr. P. Ward |
| 15. Cllr. F. Keena | 30. Cllr. B. Weld |

Apologies:

Cllr. Mary Sweeney
Cllr. Catherine Martin
Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick
Cllr. Mannix Flynn
Cllr. Jennifer Cuffe
Cllr. Cathal King
Dr. Phil Jennings, Director of Public Health, Dublin Mid-Leinster
Mr. Bernard Pierce, Estate Manager

In attendance:

Mr. David Walsh, Regional Director of Performance and Integration, Dublin Mid-Leinster
Mr. David Tully, Area Manager, Dublin South Central
Mr. Joseph Ruane, Area Manager, Midlands
Mr Maurice Farnan, Acting Area Manager, ISA Dublin South East/Wicklow
Ms. Brena Dempsey Acting Area Manager, Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow
Mr. James Conway, Assistant National Director, Midland Hospitals
Ms. Arlene Crean, Communications, Dublin Mid-Leinster
Mr. Kevin Cleary, Head of Business Unit, Dublin Mid-Leinster
Ms. Susan Temple, Secretary to the Regional Health Forum, Dublin Mid-Leinster

14.03.01 Election of Chairperson:

Cllr. Dollard welcomed the new members to the Regional Health Forum and wished them well in their endeavours. He thanked the members and in particular the Vice-Chairperson, Cllr. Tommy

McKeigue for the support he had received as Chairperson for the Dublin Mid-Leinster Regional Health Forum. Cllr. Dollard also acknowledged and thanked the Executive for their support and assistance during his time as Chairperson.

He then proceeded with the election of Chairperson.

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor was nominated by Cllr. Mark Dalton and seconded by Cllr. Tommy McKeigue.

Cllr. Máire Devine was proposed by Cllr. Vincent Jackson and seconded by Cllr. Mick Duff.

The 25 members present were balloted. 18 members voted for Cllr. O'Connor and 7 members voted for Cllr. Devine. Cllr. O'Connor was deemed to be elected.

Cllr. O'Connor thanked Cllr. Dollard for his service to the Dublin Mid-Leinster Regional Health Forum. He also thanked all the members who voted for him for their support. Cllr. Killeavy joined the meeting following the election of the Chairperson.

14.03.02 Election of Vice-Chairperson:

Cllr. Tommy McKeigue was proposed by Cllr. Brendan Weld and seconded by Cllr. Pat Hand. Cllr. Máire Devine was proposed by Cllr. Brendan Killeavy and seconded by Cllr. Shane O'Brien.

The 26 members present were balloted. 18 members voted for Cllr. McKeigue and 8 members voted for Cllr. Devine. Cllr. McKeigue was deemed to be elected Vice-Chairperson of the Dublin Mid-Leinster Regional Health Forum.

Cllr. McKeigue thanked all the members that voted for him for their support and stated that he was looking forward to working with all members during the term of the new Forum.

Cllr. Devine congratulated both Cllr. O'Connor and Cllr. McKeigue and she thanked the members that voted for her for their support. Cllr. Devine also highlighted the importance of gender parity.

Cllrs. Aird, O'Donovan and Lacey joined the meeting following the election of the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson.

14.03.03 Adoption of minutes of meeting of the Regional Health Forum, Dublin-Mid Leinster held on Tuesday 15th of April 2014.

On the proposal of Cllr. Duff, seconded by Cllr. Hand, the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 15th of April 2014 were adopted.

14.03.04 Chairperson's Correspondence

Nothing to report.

14.03.05

HSE Update – Briefings on (1) The Dublin Mid-Leinster Regional Health Forum and (2) Current Health Service Structures.

Mr David Walsh, RDPI DML, thanked Cllr. Dollard for his contribution as Chairperson of the Regional Health Forum. He also said that he was looking forward to working with Cllr. O'Connor and all members of the new Forum.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Walsh and asked him to proceed with the Presentation in relation to the Dublin Mid-Leinster Regional Health Forum and the Current Health Service Structures.

Following the presentation the following issues were raised by members:

- **Future of the Regional Health Forum**

Members enquired if there was an update regarding the future of the Regional Health Forum. Mr Walsh advised that he had no update at present.

- **Medical Card Administration**

Members expressed concerns regarding the centralisation of the administration of medical cards. Their preference was for a locally managed service. They requested that Primary Care Reimbursement Services (PCRS) make a presentation to the Forum. The members also requested similar telephone access to PCRS as members of the Oireachtas. Mr Walsh agreed to contact PCRS in this regard.

- **Orthodontic Treatment**

Members requested information regarding orthodontic services in the Midlands. Mr Ruane, Area Manager, Midlands advised that it was difficult to recruit staff for the service and that the HSE were tendering for a service to reduce waiting times for patients.

- **Mental Health Services**

Members expressed concern regarding the number of deaths by suicide. They requested that a presentation be made to the Forum in this regard. Mr Walsh agreed to liaise with the Suicide Prevention Office and arrange same. Members also highlighted that Mental Health Week in October (5th – 12th) this year and Suicide Prevention Day was on the 10th of September 2014.

- **Fair Deal Delays**

Members highlighted delays in issuing approval for the Fair Deal Scheme. Mr Walsh advised that it had been taking up to 12 weeks for approvals to issue, however the position has recently improved and he expected that approvals and improvements would be apparent by the end of the week.

- **Development of Crooksling Site**

Following enquiries by members of the Forum, Mr Walsh confirmed that Crooksling was a public asset and that there are no developments planned for the site other than those approved by the HSE.

- **Forum Members Queries**

Members requested timely responses to their queries. Mr Walsh advised that every effort was made to reply quickly to members' queries. He further stated that some queries refer to complex issues and are dependant on responses from external bodies and this may cause delays. He encouraged members to work directly with local managers in relation to their queries and concerns and confirmed that queries would be responded to as quickly as possible.

- **Harm Reduction Programme**

Members requested information regarding the effectiveness of the Harm Reduction Programme that had been implemented through pharmacies. Mr Walsh agreed to request this information and provide feedback to the Members.

Apologies noted.

14.03.06 Motions – responses to be noted.

Motion 1

That the Health Service Executive would provide details on the numbers of people from Co Westmeath attending the renal dialysis services at Tullamore Regional Hospital

Cllr. M. Dollard

A report on this motion was prepared by Mr. James Conway, Assistant National Director, Midland Hospitals. Members noted the report.

14.03.07 Questions:

Responses to questions submitted were circulated to members.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 16th September 2014.

Signed: _____
Cllr. Charlie O'Connor
Chairperson
Regional Health Forum
Dublin – Mid Leinster

Date: _____