REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM - DUBLIN MID LEINSTER

FÓRAM RÉIGIÚNACH SLÁINTE - BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH – LAR LAIGHEAN

MINUTES OF JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON

Tuesday, 21st September 2021 at 2:00pm

BRIDGE HOUSE HOTEL, TULLAMORE, CO. OFFALY

Members Present

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor Cllr. Frankie Keena Cllr Joe Behan Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick Cllr. Patsy Glennon Cllr. Mary Freehill Cllr Padraig Fleming Cllr David McManus Cllr. Ann Breen Cllr Paschal McEvoy Cllr Peggy O'Dwyer Cllr Deirdre O'Donovan Cllr Gerry O'Neill Cllr. Jim Gildea Cllr Vincent Jackson Cllr. Justin Moylan Cllr PJ Reilly Cllr. Paraic Brady

Attended Virtually

Cllr Maire Devine Mr Robert Kelly Cllr Mark Leigh Cllr Carrie Smyth Ms Arlene Creane Mr Trevor O'Callaghan Cllr Derren Ó Brádaigh Cllr Hazel Smyth Cllr Peter Hamiliton Cllr Paul Ross Cllr Dermot Lacey Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy Cllr Tom Farrell Cllr David Quinn Cllr Thomasina O'Connell Cllr Deirdre Conroy Cllr Vanessa Liston Cllr Anna Grainger Ms Martina Queally Cllr Teresa Costello

Apologies

Des O'Flynn

Not in Attendance

Cllr Sean O'Brien Cllr Ann Feeney Cllr Una Power Cllr Tony McCormack Cllr Kenneth Egan Cllr Cathal King

Officials Present

Mr Joseph Ruane, Head of Primary Care, Midlands Louth Meath CHO8
Ms Ann O'Shea, Chief Officer, Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow CHO7
Ms Martina Queally, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare East, Dublin South, East Dun Laoghaire & Wicklow CHO6
Mr Robert Kelly, Children's Health Ireland, The National Children's Hospital Group.

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Mr Trevor O'Callaghan, CEODM, DMHG

Ken Fitzgibbon, Director of Strategy & Transformation in IEHG

Ms Dymphna Bracken, Communications Manager, MLM Community Healthcare Organisation Dr Mary T O'Mahoney, Specialist in Public Health, HSE South (Cork & Kerry)

1. Adoption of minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 19th July 2021

Minutes of the Regional Health Forum's meeting held on the 19th July 2021 were adopted. Cllr Vincent Jackson and Cllr Dermot Lacey seconded the minutes

2. Health Service Updates

HSE Service Executive Updates were circulated and noted by Members which included:

- HSE marks Mouth Cancer Awareness Day (MCAD) on 15th September 2021
- HSE calls on parents to continue to vaccinate their children against preventable diseases
- The National Screening Service launches LGBT + Cervical Screening Study
- Stories of Recovery podcast series World Mental Health Day
- COVID-19 vaccination now available for women at any stage of pregnancy
- People who received a first dose of AstraZeneca can now receive an mRNA (Pfizer/Moderna) vaccine as their second dose
- HSE extends walk-in vaccinations for children aged 12 to 15

- Launch of the Annual Report (2019-2020) of the Confidential Recipient
- Updated hospital visiting guidance

3. Presentation on Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder among Children and Youth by Dr Mary T O'Mahony (Specialist in Public Health Medicine)

Chairperson Cllr PJ Reilly introduced Dr. O'Mahony. Dr O'Mahony gave a presentation last year on this subject and a follow-up was requested by the members. Dr O'Mahony hoped the forum could use their influence to promote awareness.

Dr. O'Mahony began from an economic perspective and the cost to the state per child. She went through the level of commitment from Scotland and how they have been trained by a specialised team in Canada. Also the response to those with FASD by England and Australia and the different initiatives they have introduced.

In Ireland, currently there is no bespoke service for those with FASD. It is very difficult to diagnose and more training must be provided. Children may come to the attention of various services for their difficulties. Ireland is in the top 5 countries with 600 babies born with FASD every year. The trend seem to be that women who drink heavily before their pregnancy tend to drink during pregnancy. The Cabinet decision made on the 4th May 2021 to enact the PHAA provision on minimum unit pricing for alcohol 1st Jan 2022 is the greatest step forward towards the prevention of FASD. Mary spoke about the progress that has been made in Ireland ie the Advisory Group and the 3-5 year work-plan and the various effective interventions for the prevention of FASD and how consistent messaging is so important.

A discussion took place after the presentation whereby many members raised questions related to specific projects. Dr Mary T O'Mahony answered questions accordingly.

Cllr Dermot Lacey proposed writing to the Minister of Health, Social Protection and Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth asking what interventions the state will take. The forum members supported his proposal. Cllr Lacey will send his letter to rho@hse.ie

4. Motions:

• Motions submitted by Cllr Frankie Keena, Cllr Charlie O'Connor, Cllr Máire Devine, Cllr Paul Ross, Cllr Pj Reilly, Cllr Padraic Brady, Cllr Peggy Dwyer, Cllr Deirdre Donovan, Cllr Vanessa Liston, Cllr Vincent Jackson, Cllr Joe Behan, Cllr Patsy Glennon, Cllr Mary Freehill, Cllr Dermot Lacey were discussed.

 Motion 9, submitted by Cllr Behan and Cllr Glennon wanted more clarification on their response and wish to resubmit their motion. I have asked CHO6 to respond to this.

5. Questions:

- Responses to questions submitted were circulated to members
- Cllr Carrie Symth had a follow on request to her Question (9), which was to arrange a site visit to the National Rehabilitation Hospital. RHO have requested members to respond if they are interested in a site visit and then a date will be proposed.

6. Chairperson's Correspondence

• Nil

7. AOB:

- Cllr Padraic Brady requested a presentation on the National Ambulance Service.
- Joseph Ruane advised members the October presentation will come from HSE Estates. He recommended any questions members may have to be sent to rho@hse.ie in advance of the presentation so they may be answered accordingly.

8. Date and time of next meeting

- The next meeting of the DML Regional Health Forum will take place on Tuesday, 19th October 2021 in the Bridge House Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly / Virtual.
- The next meeting of the DML Regional Health Forum Joint Committee will take place on Tuesday, 16th November 2021 in the Bridge House Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly / Virtual

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Signed:

