

REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM - DUBLIN NORTH EAST

FÓRAM RÉIGIÚNACH SLÁINTE - BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH AGUS AN TÓIRTHUISCEART

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 28TH MARCH, 2022 AT 2:00PM

In the Headfort Arms Hotel, Kells, Co. Meath & via Microsoft Teams

Members Present (*in person*)

Cllr. Séamus Coyle

Cllr. Adrian Henchy

Cllr. Gillian Toole

Members Present (*online*)

Cllr. Mary Callaghan

Cllr. Deirdre Heney

Cllr. David Maxwell

Cllr. Aisling O'Neill

Cllr. Emer Tóibín

Cllr. Kieran Dennison

Cllr. Sean Kelly

Cllr. Brian McKenna

Cllr. John Sheridan

Cllr. Aiden Fitzpatrick

Cllr. Brigid Manton

Cllr. Kevin Meenan

Cllr. Trevor Smith

Apologies

Cllr. Christy Burke

Cllr. Michelle Hall

Cllr. Howard Mahony

Not in Attendance

Cllr. Daryl Barron

Cllr. Ray McAdam

Cllr. Colm O'Rourke

Cllr. Aoibhinn Tormey

Cllr. Tom Behan

Cllr. Séamas McGrattan

Cllr. Patricia Roe

Cllr. Craig Lovett

Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien

Cllr. Niamh Souhan

Officials Present (*in person*)

Mr. Liam McHale, Communications and Parliamentary Affairs, CHO Dublin North City & County

Ms. Katherine Kellett, Regional Health Office – HSE DNE

Mr. David Quinlan, Communications & Parliamentary Affairs, CHO Dublin North City & County

Officials Present (*online*)

Ms. Mellany McLoone, Chief Officer, CHO Dublin North City & County

Ms. Essene Cassidy, Head of Service for Older Persons, CHO DNCC

Mr. Cathal Hand, Network Manager, Monaghan Primary Care Services

Mr. Ciaran Brennan, Communications Manager, Midlands Louth Meath CHO

Mr. Gearóid Rennicks, Communications and Press Officer, Ireland East Hospital Group

Ms. Lorraine Timmons, Regional Health Office – HSE DNE

Cllr. Adrian Henchy, Chairperson, opened the meeting and welcomed members to the first hybrid meeting of the full Forum.

1. Adoption of minutes of meeting held on Monday, 24th January, 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 24th January, 2022 were adopted by the Forum on the proposal of Cllr. Gillian Toole and seconded by Cllr. Brigid Manton.

2. Health Service Executive Updates

Mr. Liam McHale, Communications and Parliamentary Affairs, CHO Dublin North City & County, gave a report to the meeting which dealt with the following:

- HSE National Service Plan for 2022;
- World Obesity Day;
- CervicalCheck and Primary HPV testing;
- International Women's Day;
- Brain Health Awareness Week;
- Funding allocated in CHO 1 for Strengthening Disability Services Scheme;
- Gardening Competition;
- World Sleep Day.

The following outlines comments and queries raised by members and responses from senior management:

Breakdown of where 849 acute beds have been allocated in 2021.

It was agreed that a response would be provided.

Clarification on whether 120,000 additional hours of personal supports and 30,000 additional hours of home support are additional to last year and number of hours provided in 2021 for both areas.

It was agreed that a response would be provided.

Request for presentations on CHO Operational Plans.

Individual CHO Operational Plans are due to be approved by the Minister for Health in the next number of weeks. They are then published on the HSE website. It is hoped to present on CHO Operational Plans at the April Committee meeting.

Request to be informed when CHO Operational Plans on available on HSE website in order that members may review prior to presentation.

It was agreed to notify members once Operational Plans are available.

Recommendation that 'Dementia: Understand Together' campaign is advertised though TV as well as radio.

Noted.

Concerns in relation to changes in times between screening tests for women aged 30 to 65 – 3 to 5 years.

It was agreed that concern would be outlined to National Cervical Screening Programme.

Clarification on HPV CervicalCheck campaign – radio / TV / online.

National Communications provide a huge amount of advertising through social media, endeavouring to target respective audiences through particular types of campaigns. Evidence has shown that Facebook has been extraordinarily effective in this regard.

Details of laboratories used in HPV screening.

It was agreed that a response would be provided.

The report was noted by the Forum.

3. Presentation on interRAI

Ms. Essene Cassidy, Head of Service for Older Persons, CHO DNCC gave a presentation to members on inter RAI.

The following outlines comments and queries raised by members and responses from senior management:

Clarification on 'common language'.

Language within the medical field is standardised but depending on the location of a client, there may be slight variations on the type of assessment made and the terminology and language used in the needs assessment report. InterRAI is about standardising the process so all areas use a common assessment tool, seamless integration across teams and ensuring continuity of care.

Clarity on dementia being outlined as separate to Alzheimer's in the presentation.

The separation of the two terms relates to policy and decision making in terms of data analysis and the ability to avail of real-time data for Alzheimer's.

Reasons for delays in the advancement of the programme and whether this is due to frontline manpower difficulties.

The vision for InterRAI is that it will be embedded into the core duty of all staff working in the health service. This is where the digital platform becomes very important along with the roll-out and sufficient training of all staff.

InterRAI began its journey as the Single Assessment Team (SAT), with its own dedicated team performing assessments and feeding back to various disciplines, such as the Public Health Nurse, the hospital consultant, the local placement forum, etc. Learning from those early years showed that InterRAI needed to be embedded within the practice of all therapy grades and all staff working within the health service. Another reason for the length of time taken for implementation relates to ICT platform and procurement.

Cost of programme to the HSE.

It was agreed that a response would be provided.

Clarification on whether this is only an assessment tool - comparison to Electronic Patient Record.

InterRAI is an assessment tool but it will also ensure ease of access to information, updating of information by the relevant members of the multidisciplinary team and sharing of information across the community and hospital sectors. InterRAI will allow for streamlined sharing of information along standardised themes.

Emphasis on medical centric model in home support – requirement for time to allow more interaction with client.

Home support is provided in respect of assessed needs such as personal care, dressing, breakfast, prompting with medication, etc. with allocations in either 30 minutes or one-hour slots. If cases of increased complexity, additional hours are provided.

The importance of interaction and conversation is agreed upon, however, the HSE do not provide a sitting service. Various community development organisations provide home based or sitting services across the country.

Clarification on who the scheme applies to.

The process is applied to older persons over the age of 65. However, not every person over 65 will be assessed under InterRAI. It works in conjunction with the Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment in directing resource needs for an individual and in the majority of cases, it relates to those with complex needs.

4. Motions

There was no business under this item.

5. Questions

There was no business under this item.

6. Chairperson's Correspondence

There was no business under this item.

7. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Regional Health Forum - Dublin North East will take place on Monday, 23rd May, 2022.

During the course of discussion at the meeting members also raised the following queries and issues:

Ukrainian humanitarian crisis - role of HSE in healthcare and accommodation.

The role of the HSE is to provide health and social care.

CHO DNCC have a presence in Dublin Airport to signpost people in terms of what they can expect in relation to health services.

Health services are currently very involved in terms of health screening and CHO DNCC have begun utilising the testing centre in Finglas to provide health assessments for those living within the area, and to provide Covid-19 vaccinations and testing to the refugees. A huge amount work has been undertaken on translation and FAQs for the Ukrainians arriving into the country.

Many of these people have been traumatised by what they have been through and have experienced many difficulties and challenges, and left their family members behind. The CHO DNCC are working with their Mental Health colleagues to provide psycho-social supports.

There has not been a big demand for acute services to date, but this may change in time.

It is very much a live issue for the HSE and staff are being utilised and redeployed as appropriate.

Within CHO 1, interagency groups have been established in counties Cavan and Monaghan comprising of HSE representation. While the role of the HSE is specifically only to provide health and social care services, active collaboration with these groups will continue.

In terms of accommodation, requirements are being processed though the International Protection Accommodation Services (IPAS) and also through personal family connections.

Ukrainian humanitarian crisis - access to GPs (Ashbourne in particular).

A number of GPs have volunteered within CHO DNCC. There are also GPs who work in conjunction with the Social Inclusion department who will provide emergency services to this cohort.

As people are homed across the country, it is expected they will access GPs within their community.

It was agreed that Cllr. O'Neill would submit query directly to Midlands Louth Meath CHO in relation to access to GPs in the Ashbourne area.

HSE owned site in Ratoath.

It was agreed that an update would be provided.

Timeline for responses to Queries / Representations.

It was agreed that this matter would be examined.

Query on Meath dentists and the Dental Treatment Service Scheme.

It was agreed that Cllr. Tóibín would submit query directly to Midlands Louth Meath CHO.

School Age Disability Team for Fingal and possibility of initiative where a fund can be provided for parents to buy in services from therapists.

It was agreed that a response would be provided.

Items for future meetings

Any requests for presentations may be submitted to the Regional Health Office.

Signed:

Chairperson