

REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM

**Chairperson,
Cllr Tim Lombard**

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Agenda Regional Health Forum South Meeting

Date: Thursday 19th September 2013. **Time:** 2pm.

Venue: Council Chambers, County Hall, Cork.

1. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous Meeting held on Thursday 20th June, 2013
2. Chairperson's Correspondence
3. Presentation - Healthy Ireland – A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing delivered by Ronan Toomey, Assistant Principal Officer, Department of Health.
4. Reports by Chairpersons of the
 - (a) Acute Hospitals Services and Population Health Committee
 - (b) PCCC Committee

both held on Thursday the 11th of July, 2013 in Cork.

5. Notices of Motion

- (a) "As patient care is of paramount importance and time is of the essence when dealing with emergency medical trauma situations, I am very concerned that for 10 years now there is no helicopter landing pad at CUH -the largest hospital in Ireland, currently housing 800 beds, which will increase to 1000 upon the opening of the 85 million euro cardiac unit and also the fact that CUH is the only Level 1 Trauma Centre in this country dealing with over 40 different medical and surgical procedures. I am requesting that the HSE South publish an updated report on the current situation, also outlining the plans in place for an up to date, effective helicopter landing pad within the campus of Cork University Hospital giving dates for the effective delivery of this essential service."

Cllr. Mary Shields

- (b) "That the HSE revise the current unacceptable practise of refusing to take vulnerable patients residing in public nursing homes by ambulance for vitally important medical test, where the patient, because of the medical urgency is forced to make private appointments due to long delays in the public system. I am specially referring to patients that are confined to bed and can only travel on a stretcher and by ambulance."

Cllr. Brendan Cronin

- (c) "That the HSE South, Regional Health Forum recognises the unique needs of children with Down Syndrome and supports the issuing of medical cards to these children as a right."

Cllr. John Buttimer

- (d) "That the HSE South endorses the view that a letter be written to the Minister for Education and Skills, Minister Quinn, requesting procedures to be put in place to enable Health as a curriculum subject, be prepared, developed and introduced as a matter of important priority to our education system."

Cllr John Coonan

- (e) "That the HSE South contact all General Practitioners, and provide them with the precise contact details of the Managers of each Local Health Office, as this person has access to dedicated contacts in the Primary Care Reimbursement Service. It is most important that this information be provided, as it is vital for people who are terminally ill, and in receipt of Palliative Care, to acquire an Emergency Medical Card."

Cllr. John Joe Culloty

- (f) "Calls on the HSE South to fully outline the implications of the 2014 Regulations by HIQA in order for all public nursing homes to comply with, in the Carlow/Kilkenny area and that capital funds are put in place to ensure compliance."

Cllr. Wayne Fennell

- (g) "Arising from the unacceptable situation in St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny, where access to acute beds is being impeded by delayed discharges of dependant elderly patients, because insufficient provision is made available for such patients in St. Columba's Hospital Thomastown, and the District Hospital, Castlecomer. Given this clear evidence of shortfall in current need and future age profile increase in our elderly populations, the undersigned calls on the HSE Forum South to insist that the HSE reopen beds early next year in both Community Hospitals where accommodation is readily available, as a sustainable means of preventing a continuing care beds emergency in County Kilkenny."

Cllr Michael O'Brien

6. Questions

- (a) "To clarify the specific medical conditions, illness and diagnoses which are currently covered by the Medical Card."

Cllr. Brendan Cronin

(b) To ask the HSE:

- i. How many employees are assigned to the campus of CUH/CUMH on an average working day?
- ii. How many external contractors or employees of external contractors work on the campus on any given day?
- iii. How many on site campus spaces are provided for the exclusive use of staff and external workers?
- iv. How many car spaces are available for patient use, visitor use and those using out-patients or other services on campus at CUH/CUMH?
- v. Who sets the parking tariff on site at CUH/CUMH and who is responsible for collecting and managing this service and how much does this service cost to operate?
- vi. If surplus funds or revenue are generated, where is this money spent?

Cllr. John Buttimer

(c) "What is the up to date position regarding the Non-Consultant Hospitals Doctors dispute and their hours of work practice?"

Cllr. John Coonan

(d) "What steps does the HSE South propose to take in order to improve hygiene in all hospitals in the HSE South Region?"

Cllr. Wayne Fennell

(e) "In light of the Haddington Road Agreement, can the HSE South show that any further reductions in overtime, within the Mental Health Service in Kerry, be compensated by the employment of Graduate Nurses, from the Graduate Nurse's Scheme?"

Cllr. John Joe Culloty

7. Date and Time of next meeting – **Thursday 14th November, 2013 at 2pm, Council Chambers, County Hall, Cork**