

# REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM

## Contact Details:

Regional Health Forum Office,  
Ground Floor,  
Model Business Park,  
Model Farm Road,  
Cork

Tel: (021) 4928532  
Fax: (021) 4928529

## Agenda Regional Health Forum South Meeting

**Date:** Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 **Time:** 1.00pm

**Venue:** Council Chambers, County Hall, Cork.

1. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous Meeting held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> of May, 2014
2. Chairperson's Correspondence
  - Election of Chairperson
  - Election of Vice-Chairperson
3. Discussion on Options for Regional Health Forum Committees and Reports of Committee Meetings
  - (a) Acute Hospitals Services and Population Health Committee
  - (b) PCCC Committeeheld on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> of April and 19<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014 (two sets of reports to be adopted)

### 4. Notices of Motion

- (a) "That the new A & E Department be provided with a minimum of ten additional staff and two A & E Consultants to enable a full service be provided in the new Department."

**Cllr James Browne**

- (b) "That the HSE will now take every step necessary to guarantee executive commitment to reducing the risk to patients of acquiring healthcare-associated infections in all hospitals, to facilitate and support staff in the necessary training and to report back to this Forum at the next meeting on what steps have been taken to ensure that the concerns raised in the HIQA Report in relation to Wexford General Hospital have been addressed."

**Cllr Joe Sullivan**

- (c) "To call on the HSE to ensure that services in St Francis Special School in Beaufort, Co Kerry, be restored in full and to give a commitment to the parents that they will work to improve the quality of service delivery in relation to speech and language therapy services and physiotherapy services and the other services that are required on a daily basis to give these children and their parents a better quality of life."

**Cllr Damian Quigg**

- (d) Can the HSE explain why, when patients are seen by the Orthopaedic Department in the South Infirmary Victoria Hospital and recommended to be fitted with Orthotic support, that the Orthopaedic Surgeon then has to fill out a general 7 page request form that is common to all practitioners. This is leading to delay in patients receiving vital orthopaedic treatment and is wasteful and leading to unnecessary duplication of services when the patient has already seen the specialist service and being recommended for treatment.

**Cllr John Sheehan**

- (e) "That this Forum calls on the Minister for Health and the HSE to formulate a serious plan for the beneficial use of our Lady's Hospital, Cashel as a major part of this purposely built 1940's hospital lies in darkness now for close on 16 years."

**Cllr Tom Wood**

## **5. Questions**

- (a) "There is an urgent need to clarify the costs incurred by medical card patients for blood tests as many GP's are now charging patients €10 to take blood tests for ongoing treatment even though the Department of Health insists the cost of these blood tests are covered under the GP services, as paid by the HSE. Please clarify whether or not, under the current medical card scheme, GP's are allowed to charge patients for carrying out of blood tests."

**Cllr James Browne**

- (b) "To provide a breakdown of how many ambulances, rapid response vehicles and other emergency vehicles are based in Wexford, how many hours each type of vehicle is in use and whether there is any intention to increase the amount of vehicles and hours and if so when."

**Cllr Joe Sullivan**

- (c) "What are the intentions of the HSE regarding mental health services in South and West Kerry following the closure of local community based mental health facilities (e.g. Island View, Cahirciveen given that County Kerry has now the second highest suicide rate in Ireland, standing at 15.5 deaths per 100,000 population (National average 11.7) up from 11.5 deaths per 100,000 from 2004. Does the HSE believe that this closure was a positive step considering these statistics?"

**Cllr Damian Quigg**

- (d) "What's in store for saint Patricks Hospital, Cashel, if the accredited and acclaimed rehabilitation Unit the heart of the caring establishment is transferred.

**Cllr Tom Wood**

6. Date and Time of next meeting – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> of September at 2pm, Council Chambers, County Hall, Cork