

# REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM

**Chairperson,**  
**Cllr. Joe Sullivan**

**Contact Details:**  
**Regional Health Forum Office,**  
**Ground Floor East,**  
**Model Business Park,**  
**Model Farm Road**  
**Cork.**  
**Tel: (021) 4928532**  
**Email: rho.south@hse.ie**

## MINUTES - MEETING OF REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM SOUTH

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016 @ 2pm**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNTY HALL, CORK**

### **Present:**

Cllr. John Buttimer  
Cllr. John Carey  
Cllr. Timmy Collins  
Cllr. Henry Cremin  
Cllr. John Joe Culloty  
Cllr. Davy Daniels  
Cllr. Mary Rose Desmond  
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald  
Cllr. Denis Foley  
Cllr. Deirdre Forde  
Cllr. Breda Gardner  
Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro  
Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan  
Cllr. Willie Kavanagh  
Cllr. Mike Kennelly  
Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley

Cllr. Joe Malone  
Cllr. Michael McCarthy  
Cllr. Rachel McCarthy  
Cllr. Louise McLoughlin  
Cllr. Jason Murphy  
Cllr. Ray Murphy  
Cllr. Bobby O'Connell  
Cllr. Aaron O'Sullivan  
Cllr. John Pender  
Cllr. William Quinn  
Cllr. Bob Ryan  
Cllr. John Sheehan  
Cllr. Mary Shields  
Cllr. Joe Sullivan **Chairperson**  
Cllr. Tom Wood

### **Apologies:**

Cllr. Michael Doyle  
Cllr. Frank Staples

### **In Attendance:**

Ms. Rebecca Loughrey, Specialist in Social Inclusion  
Ms. Derval Howley, Regional Co-ordinator for Social Inclusion and Substance Misuse  
Ms. Bridie O'Sullivan, Chief Director of Nursing & Midwifery, South/South West Hospitals Group  
Ms. Sarah McCormack, National Programme Lead Healthy Ireland, Health and Wellbeing Division  
Members of the HSE South Forum Office staff

**1. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous Meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

On the proposal of Cllr. Mike Kennelly, seconded by Cllr. Timmy Collins, the Minutes of the Forum meeting held on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> 2016 were approved and adopted by the members.

**2. Chairperson's correspondence**

- Members were reminded to switch off mobile phones.
- A Vote of Sympathy was passed with Cllr. Joe Malone on the recent death of his mother, May.
- Cllr. Ray Murphy, who is replacing Ms. Mary Butler (Waterford City and County Council), following her election to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Dail, was welcomed to his first meeting of the HSE South Forum.

**3. Election of Chairperson:**

Cllr. Joe Sullivan was proposed by Cllr. Michael McCarthy and seconded by Cllr. Denis Foley. As there were no other nominations Cllr. Sullivan was elected.

The outgoing Chairman Cllr. John Joe Cullotty thanked his Fine Gael colleagues and other members of the Forum for their help over the past year. He said it had been a privilege to hold the position of Chairperson. Cllr. Culloty also thanked the HSE Managers for their help and support and paid a special tribute to Ms. Annette O'Connell (Forum Office) who did a fantastic job and was a wonderful example of an effective public servant.

Tributes were paid to Cllr. Culloty by Cllr. Mary Rose Desmond (F.F.), Cllr. Mary Hanna Hannigan (F.G), Cllr. William Quinn (Labour), Cllr. Breda Gardner (Independent), Cllr. R. McCarthy (S.F).

On assuming the Chair Cllr. Sullivan thanked the members for electing him as Chairperson for the year ahead. He complimented and congratulated Cllr. Cullotty for his contribution and looks forward to working with the members and HSE management for the enhancement of our services.

**Election of Vice Chairperson:**

Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro was proposed by Cllr. John Sheehan and seconded by Cllr. Aaron O'Sullivan.

As there were no other nominations, Cllr. Goldsboro was deemed elected.

**4. The next Committee Meetings of the Regional Health Forum South were noted:**

- (a) South East Committee Meeting to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016
- (b) South West Committee Meeting to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**5. Presentation from Health and Wellbeing Division, HSE on Healthy Ireland in the Health Services – National Implementation Plan 2015 – 2017**

Presentation by Ms. Sarah McCormack, National Programme Lead Healthy Ireland, Health & Wellbeing Division, HSE on Healthy Ireland in the Health Services – National Implementation Plan 2015 -2017.

Copies of "Health Ireland in the Health Services – National Implementation Plan 2015 – 2017" and of the presentation "Health and Wellbeing Healthy Ireland in the Health Services" given today, were provided for the members.

Having expressed their thanks for the excellent presentation, queries and comments by Members, on the following topics, were addressed by Ms. McCormack.

- (a) the role which must be played by the Department of Education especially in relation to the disadvantaged socio economic groups.
- (b) the contribution of the Local Authorities and Local Development Committees working with the HSE.
- (c) facing the evolving threats to good health, changing the culture and challenging behaviours.
- (d) the importance of good influences at home and displaying calorie details on meal menus and food on supermarket shelves.
- (e) the merits of HSE linking up with fitness clubs and leisure centres to ensure the eating habits are consistent with fitness regimes.
- (f) the need for further education and mindfulness. The value of yoga and positive therapy were emphasised and it was noted that some companies are now providing 'well being centres' at their work bases.
- (g) the problem of home drinking with new legislation required to control the excess practice. It was also noted that some major supermarkets have moved the sweets and chocolates from the checkout area to reduce temptation. This should be extended further.
- (h) the ongoing problem of people smoking on hospital grounds needs to be pursued vigorously.
- (i) concern was raised about the tendency of grandparents to treat young children with the wrong menu.
- (j) the trend of keeping alcohol in domestic fridges was also highlighted as a negative message for young children and adolescents.
- (k) the initiatives in some schools which teach children about the importance of eating proper lunches and also check the boxes to ensure compliance were lauded.

In response Ms. McCormack thanked the members for the opportunity to address them and for the excellent feedback received.

On behalf of the HSE, Ms. Rebecca Loughrey noted that the Forum members represented the South East and South West Community Areas and the Hospital Groups of Dublin/Mid Leinster and South/South West. She emphasised the HSE's commitment to the Healthy Eating Plan and that the focus is on keeping people well.

Concluding the discussion, the Chairman Cllr. Sullivan thanked Ms. McCormack for her excellent presentation and for responding to the issues raised by Forum members.

**6. Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016, at 2pm in Council Chambers, County Hall, Cork.